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Poetry.

THE LONELY HUNTER.

Green branches, green branches, I see you beckon: I follow!
Sweet is the place you guard, there in the rowantree hollow.
There he lies in the darkness, under the frail white flowers,
Heedless at last, in the silence, of these sweet mid-summer hours.

But sweeter, it may be, the moss whereon he is sleeping now
And sweeter the fragrant flowers that may crown his moon-white brow;
And sweeter the shady place deep in an Eden hollow
Wherein he dreams I am with him; and, dreaming whispers, "Follow!"

Green wind from the green-gold branches, what is the song you bring?
What are all songs for me, now, who no more care to sing?
Deep in the heart of Summer, sweet is life to me still,
But my heart is a lonely hunter that hunts on a lonely hill.

Green is that hill and lonely, set far in a shadowy place;
White is the hunter's quarry, a lost-loved human face;
O hunting heart, shall you find it, with arrow of falling breath,
Led o'er a green hill lonely by the shadowy hound of death?

Green branches, green branches, you sing of a sorrow olden,
But now it is mid-summer weather, earth-young, sun-ripe, golden;
Here I stand and I wait, here is the rowan-tree hollow.
But never a green leaf whispers, "Follow, oh, Follow, Follow!"

O never a green leaf whispers, where the green-gold branches swing;
O never a song I hear now, where one was wont to sing,
Here in the heart of Summer, sweet is life to me still,
But my heart is a lonely hunter that hunts on a lonely hill.

Fiona Macleod, in the London Weekly Sun.

LOVE'S REQUEST.

Sweetheart, if there should come a time
When in my careworn face
The beauty of a vanished prime
You strive in vain to trace;
When faded tresses, gray and thin,
Defy the binder's skill;
Sweetheart, betray no sign,
By word nor look replne.
Think of the grace that once was mine;
Kiss me and be still.

Sweetheart, if there should come a year
When from my withered lips
The loving word that now rings clear,
In tuneless weakness slips;
If I should sing with quavering voice
Some old song worse than ill,
Sweetheart, with kind deceit,
No mocking words repeat.
Think of the voice that once was sweet;
Kiss me and be still.

Sweetheart, if there should come a day—
I know not when or how—
When your love beams with lessening ray,
That fails me brightly now;
When you can meet my faithful eyes,
And feel no answering thrill;
Sweetheart, let me not know—
I could not bear the woe.
Think of the dear, dear long ago;
Kiss me and be still.
—New York Advertiser.

EVOLUTION.

Down the sunlit Grecian valleys, but the garden and the fold,
Homer went in utter darkness, ever toiling hopeful still;
But the records of earth's heroes, and the loves and hates of old—
These were born from out his travail future patriots to thrill.

At Golgotha there was lifted to the rugged cross a god—
And a god's great heart was broken as there rent the temple's vail;
Yet as Aaron's rod bloomed whitely, budded from the bloody tree
Hope that never yet shall fail us, though all else shall fail.

By the Ayr a poet wasted under persecution's lash—
Unappreciated ever, from misfortune seldom free;
And with Scotia's breezes mingled, deathless though the nations crash,
There resounds the songs whose music hallows earth from sea to sea.

So from God's eternal wisdom is evolved the scheme sublime—
Light that blesses, faith that cheers us, and the songs that thrill the way;
And whatever we may fancy will result in course of time—
God will yet crush out the evil, and the night will yield to day.
—Will T. Hale in Nashville American.

Miscellany.

PATERNAL SOLICITUDE.

Mr. Corntossel Did Not Want Josiar Pushed Too Fast.

"I notice," remarked Mr. Corntossel, as he entered the sanctum of the rural weekly journal, "thet ye make a practice o' writin' up folks thet's jes' got back ter town."

"Yes," replied the proprietor.

"Wal, I wanter ask ye, ez a special favor not ter interview my boy Josiar. He's comin' home fur a few days an' I don't want ye ter put nothin' 'tall in the paper 'bout it."

"Of course, we won't say anything about it, if you don't want us to."

"I'm much obliged ter ye. I know it's askin' a good deal, but ye know a father'll go a long ways ter look after the interests of an only son."

"But it won't do him any harm to be put in the paper."

"It might. Did ye ever hear that boy talk? He knows more about bimetallism an' finance an' taxation an' arbitration than ye'd imagine anybody could learn in a lifetime."

"That's a good thing for him."

"Mebbe. But I don't want 'im pushed too fast. I've heard that Major McKinley hez been havin' some trouble gittin' suitable men for 'is cabinet. I'd like ter help the major out, but I don't want him ter hear 'bout Josiar, 'cause I'm hones'ly afraid the boy's health wouldn't stand it."
—Detroit Journal.

PREMATURE THANKS.

Old War Story About the 19th Maine Regiment.

During the rebellion the Nineteenth Maine acquired a reputation for foraging the country so thoroughly that they were said to have starved the confederacy out. One day they were sweeping along, dining on the fat of the land as usual. Another troop was ahead, and between them and the Nineteenth rode Gen. Hancock. As the general was passing one plantation the proprietor came out and hailed his party.

"General," said he, "I want some sort of safeguard. The troops that have just gone by stole my pigs, lifted my henroost and emptied my cellar."

"I am very sorry," said Hancock.

"Yes," continued the old man, "they stole everything but my hope of immortality. Thank God, none of them can steal that."

"Don't be too sure of that," retorted the general; "the Nineteenth Maine is coming next."—Argonaut.

His "Ism."

"Mrs. O'Rooney," said the Rev. Father McMurphy, "why do I never see Patrick at church now?"

Mrs. O'Rooney shook her head sadly.

"Is it anarchism?"

"Worse than thot, yer riverence."

"Is it atheism?"

"Worse, yer riverence."

"What is it, then?"

"Rheumatism."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

ALASKA'S GOLD MINES.

PLENTY OF THE YELLOW METAL AND VERY EASY TO OBTAIN.

The Trouble Lies in Getting to the Mines—Some of the Difficulties of the 900 Miles Overland.

Birch creek district is the scene of some of the richest placer mines in Alaska. The creek from which this section takes its name is a tributary of the Yukon river, and runs parallel with that stream for over three hundred miles. There are more than a hundred small streams throughout the Birch creek district, and the water in all of them finally becomes merged with that in the main creek, and it is upon these small streams the most extensive deposits of free gold have been found. On the main creek very little mining is done. The gold that is found there is usually upon the bars, and is in minute particles called "flour gold." So far, the richest discoveries in the district have been made upon Deadwood and Masodon creeks. There are numerous claims upon these two creeks from which an average of from five to seven ounces of gold per day to the man are taken. The average yield of the claims throughout the Birch creek district will run from one to three ounces to each man employed.

It is perhaps useless to say that all the ground along both Mastodon and Deadwood creeks has already been located, and on many of the other creeks, where rich discoveries have been made, the same condition exists. On Mastodon creek a smaller glacier covers the "pay streak" for over half a mile. The glacier is from fifty to a hundred feet high and is several hundred feet wide; yet all the ground under it has been located, and it is this year proposed to break up the ice by means of giant powder and float it down the stream so that the ground can be worked. Very fine, good-paying claims throughout the district can be purchased for less than $5,000. But the country is a vast one, and even at the rate miners have been rushing in during the present year, it will take at least a dozen years before the Birch creek district alone can be prospected, and it is safe to say that in numerous tributaries that have not yet been tried many good claims will be found. Then just across the spur of mountains out of which Birch creek starts, lies the great valley of the Tanana, over 600 miles long. Many prospectors have this year gone over to that part of the country, and from the reports of those men who spent last season there, there is reason to believe that the Tanana river drains a section of country as rich in free gold as that through which the Yukon passes. Still there is another section that has been found to be exceptionally rich. It is the Kuokuk district and lies about two hundred miles northeast of Circle City. Neither Kuokuk nor the Tanana country can be said to be even partly settled up. Only a few scattered claims, some of which are fully as rich as the best of those in the Birch creek district, are located through them.

At present there are not more than 2,000 miners scattered throughout the country surrounding Birch creek. Many of these men are day laborers who receive from their work from $10 to $16 per day. Most of the laborers are employed upon the claims along Mastodon creek.

Mastodon creek runs through an exceptionally wide valley through which the "pay streak" is very much scattered; therefore, a number of men can be employed to advantage upon most of the claims, and upon some of them thirty or forty men find work during the short summer season, which lasts about one hundred days. The creek is twelve miles long and there are over a hundred good claims located upon it.

The dimensions of a claim upon most of the creeks in the Birch creek district are five hundred feet along the stream and extend the full width of the valley, whether it be a mile or but a few feet.

There are about thirty claims upon Mastodon creek that can only be worked during the winter months, when the ground is frozen to bedrock. They are what are termed "winter claims," and the reason that they cannot be worked at any other time is that they are located upon low, marshy ground, and the bedrock, upon which the richest deposits of free gold are found, is perhaps thirty feet below the surface. These claims are worked by the "burning process." A fire is kindled upon the ground at the place it is intended to sink the shaft, and when a foot or more of the earth becomes thawed out it is removed and the fire is again started in the hole, and so on, until bedrock is reached. Then a tunnel is branched off to follow up the "pay streak," but still the "burning process" has to be continued. Mining under these unfavorable conditions is necessarily very slow and only the best paying ground on the claim and only the best paying ground on the claim is worked. The gravel taken from the tunnel is dumped at a convenient place close to the mouth of the shaft, and at the close of the winter season it is run through sluice boxes and the gold is separated from it. The pile of "pay gravel" that it has taken the greater part of the year to take from the tunnel can be "sluiced" in less than a week. The gold is mostly coarse. Quicksilver is seldom used to catch what little fine gold there is.

On one of the winter claims on which three men were employed last year the "clean-up" amounted to over $20,000, the other claims ranging from $5,000 to $15,000. Mastodon creek is not a direct tributary of Birch creek. At the confluence of Independence and Mastodon creeks the stream takes the name of Mammoth creek.

Now there are difficulties to be surmounted in order to reach the gold fields of the Yukon that will discourage men who are far from being weak-hearted. Some who go forth upon this journey will turn back at the first real hardship; others will turn back when over half the journey is made, and some who go forth will never return, but will find, instead of the fortune they seek, an icy sepulchre in a region of perpetual snow, or a watery grave at the bottom of some treacherous river or lake in the North.

Practically, the great basin of the Yukon is to be reached by but one route—that via Juneau and the Chilkoot pass being the shortest, quickest and cheapest, and the one taken by fully ninety per cent of the gold seekers of the vast interior. The start should be made from Juneau about the middle of March, in order to reach the mines at the beginning of the mining season. Supplies sufficient to last from six months to a year are usually taken along, and if you desire to do your own transporting, do not start later than the first of April, since the snow will be off the ground in some places before the lakes can be reached and you will then have more than the ordinary difficulties to contend with.

From Juneau to Dyea, the first hundred miles of the journey is made by steam navigation, the fare, including the transportation of supplies, being $10. From Dyea canoes can be used for about six miles up the Dyea river to a canyon where the trail leads up the rugged sides of the mountain along a narrow timber shelf overlooking the canyon, until Sheep camp is reached. Here, possibly, you may be delayed a number of days awaiting a favorable opportunity to cross the summit of Chilkoot pass, owing to the frequency of blizzards that prevail in that section of the country, even as late as April.

From Sheep camp to the summit every article you desire to take with you will have to be carried. The pass is steep and in some places very narrow. The distance is about four miles. Only a light load, strapped upon the back so as to allow the bearer free use of his hands, can be carried up the pass; so, if your supplies weigh 700 or 800 pounds you will be several days traveling over this short distance. When, at last, the final trip has been accomplished, then the route down from the summit to the head of Lake Linderman is an easy one.

From the foot of the pass, where the journey on foot commences, to the summit of Chilkoot, the distance is nine miles. On the other side of the summit commences a steep descent of over 500 feet, ending in Crater lake. This lake is undoubtedly the scene of a once active crater; but it now contains snow and ice all the year. If the journey is made early in April, usually the whole distance down to the head of the Yukon river can be made by sleighing; the lakes can be crossed upon the ice, and lumber can be sawed upon the banks of the river, a boat built and launched ready for the down-stream journey, which can commence soon after the ice begins to leave that stream, which it does much earlier than upon the lakes. The journey down the river is comparatively an easy one. There are a number of dangerous rapids to pass; some of them it is advisable to take your supplies past by land, then attach a long rope to the stern of your boat so as, in a measure, to control its motion from the shore, and allow it to float through the swirling and foaming water. Many boats have been swamped or ground to pieces upon the rocks while passing through these rapids, and sometimes a little extra labor added to the little vessel, tending to make it stronger, may save the trouble of building another one.

The current of the Yukon is quite swift, and, if no accident interferes, the journey on to Circle City can easily be made in two weeks.

Now, when Circle City is reached you are not at the mines, by any means, nor are the hardships of the journey at an end. In fact, very little mining of any kind is done in the vicinity of that city. The mines of the Birch creek district are still 60 miles away in a direct line, almost due north, and I will say here, in order that I may not be misunderstood as urging any one to make this trip, that there are many men who do not go to the mines, even after Circle City is reached, but who remain in that city until later in the year, when the first river steamer returns to St. Michael's, and then leave for their homes by way of the Bering sea, where they are transferred to deep-water vessels, feeling very much disgusted with themselves that they should have ever attempted to reach the gold mines of the Yukon.

Circle City is the supply point for the Birch creek district. It is situated on elevated table land bordering the Yukon river, and was founded in the fall of 1894. Supplies for this port are first landed from sea-going vessels at St. Michael's, a small station bordering on the Bering sea, and thence shipped in small, flat-bottomed steamers to their destination.

Between Circle City and Birch creek there are seven miles of flat, marshy land, that will have to be crossed to reach the mines. You can have your boat hauled over for about $25. Supplies will be taken at the regulation rate of $8 per hundred pounds, or you can carry them across, making one trip each day, and carrying 100 pounds each trip. Then for 30 miles you pole up Birch creek, and thence up Crooked creek another 30 miles to Mammoth creek. That is as far up stream as your boat can go, and as these creeks do not run in a direct line, you will be about fourteen miles from the heart of the mining district.

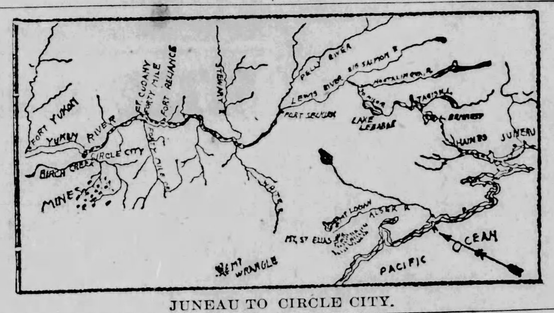
Indians can be hired to pack supplies from Circle City to the mines at the rate of $40 per hundred pounds. Flour last year could be purchased at Circle City for $16 per hundred, and at the mines on Mastodon creek for $56. Beans and Bacon could be purchased at the city for from 50 to 60 cents per pound, and were sold at the mines at $1.

The fare from San Francisco or Seattle to Circle City via the Bering sea and the Yukon river is $210 first-class, and $150 second; charges on supplies are correspondingly high. The steamers cannot run up the Yukon river until late in the year, and the miners who travel by that route will arrive at the mines too late to do any work the first season.

The distance from Juneau to the various points along the route to Circle City are shown in the following table, which is compiled from Prof. Ogilvie's survey as far as it has been completed, the remaining distances are from the best attainable authorities:

Haines Mission (Chilkat)	80
Dyea	100
Head of canoe navigation	106
Summit of Chilkoot Pass	114½
Head of Lake Linderman	125½
Foot of Lake Linderman	127½
Head of Lake Bennett	128½
Foot of Lake Bennett	153½
Caribou Crossing	156½
Foot of Tagish Lake	173½
Head of Lake Marsh	178½
Foot of Lake Marsh	197½
Head of Canyon	223
Foot of Canyon	223½
Head of White Horse Rapids	225½
Takeeena River	240
Head of Lake Le Barge	256
Foot of Lake Le Barge	284
Hootalinqua River	316
Cassiar Bar	342
Big Salmon River	349
Little Salmon River	385½
Five Fingers Rapids	444
Rink Rapids	450
Pelly River	503½
White River	509½
Stewart River	603
Sixty Mile Post	629
Fort Reliance	682½
Forty Mile Post	728
Fort Cudahy	728½
Circle City	808

(The above article is a condensation of an illustrated paper in the February number of the National Magazine, written by G. M. Hill.)



JUNEAU TO CIRCLE CITY.

ESKIMO DOG TEAM ON THE YU KON TRAIL TO THE GOLD MINES.

THE PAIN OF LOVING.

Ah, turn your pretty eyes away!
You would not have me love again!
Love's pleasure does not live a day:
Immortal is Love's pain,
And I am tired of pain.

I have loved once—aye, once or twice;
The pleasure died, the pain lives here;
I will not look in your sweet eyes,
I will not love you, dear,
Lest you should grow too dear.

For I am weary and afraid.
Have I not seen why life was fair,
And known how good a world God made,
How sweet the blossoms were,
How dear the green fields were?

And I have found how life was gray,
A mist-hung road, a quest in vain,
Until once more Love smiled my way
And fooled me once again,
And taught me grief again.

Now I will gather no more grief;
I only ask to see the sky,
The budding flower, the budding leaf,
And put old dreamings by,
The dreams Love tortures by.

For, being wise, I love no more;
You, if you will, snare with those eyes
Some fool who never loved before,
And teach him to be wise!
For why should you be wise?
—Pall Mall Gazette.

WIDOW'S BALL GOWN.

A Delicate Way of Introducing a Widow Into Society.

It is more difficult for a widow to reenter society than for a bud to appear in it for the first time. The widow's reappearance must be managed delicately and in perfect taste. Her dress for her first public occasion is one upon which both she and her modiste must plan.

A gown worn by a young widow at a ball given by Mrs. William E. Whitney was of corded silk, dull, and of a pure whiteness without tint. The texture of the silk had none of the "glow" noticeable in most corded silk gowns.

The skirt—a full, plain godet—was bordered with a tiny strip of sable around the foot. The lining of the skirt was a delicate purple, which was the only color in the dress. The waist, which was a round one, had a pointed yoke, outlined with sable. Around the neck was also a band of the fur. And another band edged the half-short sleeves.

The yoke was of white satin, embroidered in jet, and the neck frill was of chiffon, beaded with jet. The jets were repeated in the belt, and in the pointed ruffle upon the yoke. Long black gloves were worn, and upon one shoulder there was a bunch of orchids with fern leaves, matching the bouquet carried in the shapely hands.

BALL DRESS FOR YOUNG WIDOW.

DIDN'T RELISH THE JOKE.

Rather a Mean Advantage to Take of a Jealous Man.

The Colonel was a bluff old fellow, and all the officers liked him except for one thing, and that was his jealousy of the commanding officer of a neighboring post, says Harper's Round Table. He would grow irritable whenever this officer's name was mentioned, although he invariably brought the name up himself. One evening some of the mess determined to have some fun with the Colonel, and possibly put a stop to his pettishness.

"Colonel," said one of the officers, "it's queer, but you'd think Major D— (the neighboring commander) had studied spelling. I got a letter from him to-day, and how do you think he spells 'here'?"

"He doesn't know much," growled the Colonel. "I suppose he spells it h-e-a-r."

"No."

"Well, h-e-e-r."

"No, that's not it."

"H-i-e-r," ventured the Colonel once more.

"Guess again."

"Well, I'd have to be as stupid as he is to guess any other way of spelling it. Wait a moment. Does he spell it h-u-e-r?"

"No, Colonel."

"Well, then, how does the man spell it, anyhow?"

"Why, h-e-r-e, as it should be."

The Colonel rose with wrath in his eyes, and snapped out:

"Gentlemen, I'm too old for such joking," and then left the room and slammed the door after him.

The New School of Reformers.

"Who is that woman with the big hat and the pasty complexion?"

"Why, that's the Countess Caramels—the woman who ran away from her husband and five children with an organ-grinder. She's the author of that charming pamphlet entitled, 'A Warning to American Girls.'"

"And who is that red-faced female in the low-necked gown?"

"That's Lady Shamey. She's been divorced three times and is now advertising for an American husband with money."

"Why is she here?"

"Don't you know? She's the author of that touching brochure called 'Keep the Marriage Tie Sacred.'"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Why He Liked It.

Stranger—So this is a prohibition town, is it?

Native—Yes, sir.

Stranger—Well, I swear, I don't see how as intelligent and fine a looking man as you can stand it in a place where such a ridiculous law is put in force.

Native—My dear sir, it meets with my enthusiastic approval. I wouldn't have things changed for a gold deal.

Stranger—Come, now, I can't believe that. Explain yourself.

Native—Well, you see, I run the only drug store in town.—Cleveland Leader.

A Boy's Conscience.

"See here," howled the manager, "does it take you four hours to carry a message three streets away and return?"

"Wy," said the new office boy, "you told me to see how long it would take me to get there and back, and I done it."—Tit-Bits.

Twisted.

Johnny—I was a windy day the last time I went to grandma's. It blowed and it——

Mother—It blowed is not proper. Say it blew.

Johnny—It blew and it blew awful.—New York Tribune.

Our Serial Story.

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"The Clock Struck One"

By FERGUS HUME,

Author of "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," "The Lone Inn," "The Expedition of Captain Flick," "The Mystery of Landy Court, etc.

CHAPTER XVII.—A STORY OF THE PAST.

"My mother!"

Echoing Lady Burville's exclamation, Dora stepped backward and surveyed with amazement the weeping woman kneeling at her feet. The situation perplexed her. She could not believe that Lady Burville spoke truly in claiming so close a relationship, and deemed that it was some trick to avert the danger of being arrested for the crime. She frowned as this thought came into her mind, and turned away coldly.

"I do not believe you, Lady Burville. My parents are dead."

"Your father is dead," said Lady Burville, rising slowly, "but your mother lives; I am really and truly your mother. Why should I say what is not true?"

"Oh, you have enough excuse to do so," said Dora quietly. "You hope to close my mouth, and escape the consequences of your crime."

"My crime! You believe, then, that I killed Mr. Edermont?"

"I do. You were in the room alone with him, and left the house hurriedly. When Dr. Scott was coming from Canterbury he met you."

"He met me twice," said Lady Burville calmly; "once when I was coming from Chillum, and again when he assisted me to repair my bicycle."

"Then you do not deny that you were at the Red House?"

"No; I can hardly do so in the face of the discovery of the pearl brooch. It is mine; I thought I had lost it on the road; but as it was found in Mr. Edermont's study, I admit that I was there on the night of the second of August. If I were guilty, I would not admit as much, even to my own daughter."

"I am not your daughter. Give me some proof that you are my mother."

"What proof do you want?" asked Lady Burville helplessly. "You can not alter existing facts. If you choose to listen, I can tell you so much of my history as may convince you that what I say is true."

She took her seat on a near sofa, and put a frivolous lace handkerchief to her eyes. Dora looked at this woman, so frail, so helpless, so devoid of brain and courage, and pity entered her soul. If this was indeed her mother, the relationship was nothing to be proud of. And yet, would she confess to such a thing if it were not true? Dora could not answer this question, and resolved to suspend her judgment until she heard the promised history. With some pity she seated herself beside the feeble little woman.

"I am willing to hear your story," she said kindly; "but first you must assure me of your innocence."

"Innocence! Oh, as to the murder. Yes; I am innocent. I never touched Julian; I did not kill him. I would not kill a fly. Who says I am guilty?"

"Dr. Scott saw——"

"I know he saw me," interrupted Lady Burville impatiently. "I do not deny it. But did he see the dead body of Mr. Edermont, since he is so sure of my guilt?"

"He found your brooch lying by the dead body."

"Ah! And what was he doing at the Red House on that night? When I left Julian he was alive and well. No doubt Dr. Scott killed him, and blames me for the crime."

"I do not believe that," said Dora decidedly. "Allen is innocent."

"You think so because you love him," said Lady Burville bitterly. "No doubt you are right, my dear; but if he is innocent, who is guilty? Not—I—not— Don't look at me like that, Dora. I swear I did not kill Julian. How dare you accuse your mother of such a horrible thing!"

"You forgot I am not yet prepared to accept you as my mother."

"I do not see why you should," said Lady Burville quietly. "I have not acted the part of a mother towards you. But what could I do? Julian took you away from me when you were a year old."

"Had Mr. Edermont the right to do so?"

"Yes. He was my husband!"

"Your husband!" cried Dora in astonishment. "Do you mean to say that Mr. Edermont was my father?"

"I say nothing of the sort," retorted Lady Burville impatiently. "Julian was my second husband; you were the offspring of my first."

"Then my father is dead?"

"No, he isn't; I am sure I don't know; I thought he was, but it seems he isn't," said Lady Burville incoherently. "Oh, dear, Oh, dear what a tangle it all is!"

"I cannot understand," said Dora in perplexity. "Perhaps, if you tell me your story from the beginning, I may gather what you mean."

"I shall tell you as much as suits me," replied Lady Burville, "but I cannot tell you all. It is too terrible!" She shuddered, and looked round. "Perhaps you may be able to help me, Dora; I am in the power of a man."

"Of what man?"

"Of August Pallant. You know, he was down at Hernwood with me. Oh, my dear, he is a terrible man, and he knows all."

"Knows all what?"

"All my story—all your story—all Julian's story. He threatened to tell my husband." Here her eyes wandered to the stern-faced portrait. "I am so afraid of my husband," she said with a burst of tears, "and Mr. Pallant is merciless. Oh, my dear, my dear, if you could only help me!"

"Tell me your story, and I may be able to do so," said Dora cheerfully.

She was beginning to believe that Lady Burville spoke truly, and that she was really her mother. It seemed doubtful as to whether she was guiltless or guilty, and Dora was prepared to hear both sides of the question before judging. But even if Lady Burville proved the truth of her assertion, Dora was not prepared to take her for a parent, and be sentimental over the discovery. Mother and daughter had been so long parted and estranged, that no revival of the maternal or filial feeling was possible. Dora pitied her mother, and she was sorry for her; but she did not love her. In the meantime Lady Burville told her story, in her usual flippant manner, with many tears. The woman's nature was shallow in the extreme.

"I was married to your father at an early age," she said. "He was a sea captain, and immediately after the honeymoon he went to sea. I lived at Christchurch, in Hants, while he was away. Mr. Edermont was there also."

"Is not Edermont a feigned name?" asked Dora suddenly.

"How clever you are!" said her mother, very well. He gave me the letters himself; that was why he sent for me. I went; I got the letters, and I came away. When I left the house Dargill—or Edermont, as he called himself—was as well as you or I."

"But when Allen went into the study after you left it, he found Mr. Edermont dead, and the bureau robbed."

"Then, if Dr. Scott did not kill him, some one else must have done so."

"But Allen had no reason to kill him," argued Dora.

"No," said Lady Burville, "but Carew had."

"My father?"

"Yes; I believe that my first husband killed my second. In a word, George Carew killed Mr. Dargill."

CHAPTER XVIII.—PALLANT MAKES A STATEMENT.

Dora did not remain long with Lady Burville after she had heard the story; nor did her mother desire her to stay. There was no love lost between them, therefore there was no joy at their meeting, no sorrow at their parting. Lady Burville considered her daughter to be cold, proud and unsympathetic; Dora saw that Lady Burville was a weak and frivolous fool, whom she could neither respect nor love. They parted with a feeling of mutual relief; but not before Lady Burville had extracted a promise of silence.

"You must say nothing about what I've told you to anybody," she said imploringly. "My husband would never forgive me if he found out my past history. I told it to you so as to clear myself in your eyes as to the murder. Only Pallant knows my story, and he will keep silent while I give him money. As you are my child, you must be silent also. Say nothing—nothing."

"But I wish to find out who killed my guardian," said Dora.

"I tell you it was Carew. No one else had any reason to kill him. If you denounce Carew you will hang your own father. Promise me to be silent."

"I promise," said Dora, curtly, and took her leave in the calmest manner.

She returned to Selling, and there rode to Chillum on her bicycle. It was late on eight before she got home, and she found Joad waiting for her at the gate. He looked pleased to see her, and wheeled the machine into the grounds.

"You are late," he said, following her every movement with greedy eyes. "I hope you had a pleasant day with your friend."

"Very pleasant, Mr. Joad. Good-night, I am tired."

She walked off with a stiff nod, and left her elderly lover looking after her with a rather sulky expression. He had missed her greatly during the day, and resented her departure when he wanted to have a little chat before retiring to his own domicile across the road.

"Never mind," chuckled Joad, rubbing his hands. "She'll have to marry me, or see Allen Scott in goal as a murderer. And when we are man and wife I shall find out some way to tame her proud spirit."

Dora partook of supper with Mrs. Tice, but answered the good lady's questions in a perfunctory manner. The housekeeper was anxious and uneasy. The visit of Dora to town struck her as strange—the more so as she connected it with recent events. Before departing Dora had promised an explanation of her movements, and Mrs. Tice waited for the fulfilment of that promise. But Dora said nothing. She ate her supper, talked on general subjects, and finally took herself off to bed without a word of explanation. Mrs. Tice was annoyed.

"Miss Carew," she said, following her to the door, "I beg your pardon, but you promised to tell me why you went up to town to-day."

"Did I?" said Dora carelessly. "I've changed my mind, then."

"I do not see why you should keep me in the dark, miss," exclaimed the housekeeper in a mortified tone.

"If you can't back your memory to our last conversation, you will see, Mrs. Tice. You are keeping me in the dark; so, by acting in the same way towards you, I am only giving you a Roland for an Oliver."

"All the same, you could do worse than ask my advice, Miss Carew."

"I have asked it, and you refuse to help me. Now I must see after things in my own way."

"You will get into trouble if you are not careful," said Mrs. Tice sharply.

"It will be no thanks to you if I do," retorted Dora bitterly. "You have refused to help me."

"What would you have me do, girl?" cried Mrs. Tice, forgetting her respect in her anxiety. "I dare not tell you what I know. Mr. Allen made me promise to be silent."

"Allen is acting in a very foolish manner, and so are you," said Dora quietly; "you seem to think that I am a child, to whom no secret can be confided. In ordinary cases, this would not matter to me, as I am fickle in matters of women. But as my happiness is at stake, I must strive to learn what you would want concealed."

"It will do you no good if you do find out," said Mrs. Tice sullenly.

"Perhaps not; but at least its discovery will throw a light on the mystery of this murder."

"There you are wrong, Miss Carew. It will do no such thing."

Dora had argued at this point before, therefore she made no reply, and with a weary nod prepared to leave the room. Again Mrs. Tice laid a detaining hand upon her sleeve.

"Tell me, my dear," said she timidly, "what is it Mr. Allen said to you about the murder?"

"You had better ask him, Mrs. Tice. It is no good coming to me. Unless you tell me what you know, I shall keep silent as to my knowledge."

"Does Mr. Allen know anything about this crime?"

"Yes, he does. He knows a great deal."

"Does he know who killed Mr. Edermont?"

"He does—and you know also."

"No, no; I—I do not!" gasped Mrs. Tice, shrinking back; "my knowledge has nothing to do with the matter."

"Has your knowledge anything to do with my father?"

Mrs. Tice gasped again, and sank into a chair. For a moment she closed her eyes, and when she opened them again Dora was gone. The housekeeper wiped her face.

"Who can have told her about her father?" she meditated. "If she gets to know about him there will be trouble."

Then she drank a glass of water, and put away her work. But her thoughts wandered.

"What has come to her?" she said to herself again, as she made all safe for the night. "There is a worried look on her face, an anxious expression in her eyes. And why did she go up to London? Can she have learnt anything about the past? No, no. Mr. Allen knows it, Mr. Joad knows it, and myself. None of the three will tell her. Still, that question about her father! It is very, very strange."

In the meantime Dora was leaning out of her bed room window, looking into the soft darkness of the night. Overhead the sky was fleecy with clouds, between the rifts of which twinkled the cold stars; and below, between the tree tops and dry grass, hovered the thick gloom of night. She could see nothing in the shadows; all was as indistinct as unknown, as strange as this mystery which was torturing her life.

She had gone seeking, and she had learnt much. That her mother lived, and her father. That the latter had been the incarnation of the deadly fear which had haunted Dargill, alias Edermont, throughout his long life. No wonder he had changed his name, had hidden himself in the Red House, had prayed for deliverance from murder and sudden death, when a man of violent passions had hunted him hot-footed through the world. Dora remembered what a despicable coward the dead man had been, and no longer marvelled at his fears; but what she did wonder at was the change that had come over Edermont after Pallant's visit. Then he declared that the shadow was lifted from his life; that he could henceforth mix with his fellow men, and dwell in safety. Such joy could only mean that his enemy was dead. Yet Edermont was dead also, of the very death he feared.

And there was no doubt in Dora's mind that her father had killed him. It seemed a cruel thing, for, after all, in marrying her mother Edermont—or Dargill, as he was called—had sinned unconsciously. Why should her father have so ardently desired his death? Dora began to think that her mother had not told her all; that there was something still hidden; a something which might account for the persistent desire of Carew for the death of Edermont.

Again, she had not asked her mother what was the bar which existed to prevent her marriage with Allen. Dora thought her mother knew this, and might reveal the obstacle. But then she would be forced to tell the portion of her story which she had hidden. Would she do so? Dora was doubtful, for the weak little coquette was as strong as steel in aught that concerned herself. Unblinded by filial love, Dora estimated her mother's character at its true value. There was no further hope of learning the truth in that quarter. And then, would Pallant keep silent? Dora remembered how he had extorted money from her weak mother for over two years, and rose to meet him with a stern face.

"What has brought you here, sir?" she asked coldly.

"You have," said Pallant, calmly taking a seat. "I saw Lady Burville yesterday, and she gave me the gist of your conversation."

"I do not see how it can interest you," said Dora contemptuously. "You can not get out of me what I have not got, I assure you, Mr. Pallant."

"More's the pity!" he replied, quite indifferent to her shaft. "With your beauty and my brains, we might do worse than marry!"

"Marry—marry you!"

"I forgot. You are in love with that foolish young doctor," he said in his sleepy voice. "That is a pity. At our first meeting I warned you to beware of Allen Scott."

"I know you did. Why did you warn me?"

"Ah! I see your mother did not tell you everything. Miss Carew, she told you would not ask me such a question. I warned you, lest you should give him your heart. It would be foolish to do so, because you can never marry him."

"Why?"

"That is my secret. I don't tell you all I know. It is not worth my while."

Dora looked at him scornfully. "It is worth your while to blackmail my mother."

"It pays! it pays!" said Pallant shamelessly. "I must live, you know. Lady Burville is greatly afraid of her present husband, so she keeps me well supplied with money to hold my tongue."

"Where did you learn my mother's history?" said Dora, disgusted with this brutal speech.

"From the best of all authorities—her first husband."

"My father."

"Your father—George Theophilus Carew. I met him in San Francisco some years ago. He is a drunkard and a gambler, Miss Carew. We had some dealings over cards, for you must know that I am a gambler also, though it is to my credit that I don't drink. One day, in a fit of maudlin fear, he told me his story, and how he was seeking for Julian Dargill."

"Mr. Edermont?"

"Precisely. The man who had taken away his wife. He wanted to kill him."

"To kill him!" echoed Dora, starting; "and did my father succeed in carrying out his intention?" Was it George Carew who killed Mr. Edermont?"

"Not exactly, Miss Carew," responded Pallant dryly, "for the simple reason that before your father could accomplish his object he died himself."

"Died himself! Is my father dead?"

"Dead and buried," said Pallant concisely, "dead and buried."

[To be Continued.]

Shrunken With Age.

Sir Lois—My uncle, my lineage and myself are synonymous.

Miss Dearborn—And the family jewels?

Sir Lois—I will get them from my uncle.

Miss Dearborn—And the family plate?

Sir Lois—Yes, although they are but the ghosts of what they once were.—Cincinnati Tribune.

The Ruling Passion.

Mr. Figg—I heard to-day that Evangeline, who worked for us last summer, has been at death's door for a week.

Mrs. Figg—With her eye to the keyhole?—Indianapolis Journal.

Breaking It Gently.

"And how did he die?" asked the lady who had come to inquire after her husband, who had been lynched.

"Er—by request, ma'am," said the gentle cowboy, as mildly and regretfully as possible.—Indianapolis Journal.

He Got the Job.

Barber—Have you had any experience in shaving students?

Applicant (for job)—Oh, yes, sir; I always go over their faces before I start in with the razor, and ask them how it it pulls much.—Judge.

Natural History Kindergarten.

Why do the ill-tle birds hop so often around the kitch-en door?

Because they want some-thing to eat.

Why does the fat cow creep slow-ly toward the o-pen kitch-en door?

Be-cause she wants some-thing to eat, too.—Somerville Journal.

Nonplussed.

I fain would write a sonnet on her brow,
Or a lyric on her figure must select,
But I'm puzzled very greatly to know how
To write 'em there, because she may object.
—New York World.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Wealth Better Distributed.

"It seems that from 70 to 75 per cent of this nation's wealth has been accumulated in the last 25 years. If so, is it a fact that this wealth is in the hands of a few—the rich? I contend there are more home owners and fewer mortgaged homes to-day than there were ten and fifteen years ago."—C. F. W., Grand Ledge, Mich.

To make an exhaustive research into this matter would require weeks of labor. The total valuation of property in the United States by the various censuses, including both real and personal property, was as follows:

1850.....	$ 7,135,780,228
1860.....	16,159,616,068
1870.....	30,068,518,507
1880.....	43,642,000,000
1890.....	65,037,091,197

Of the total for 1890, $39,544,544,333 is the value of real estate and improvements thereon; $25,492,546,864 is the value of personal property, including railroads, mines and quarries.

The total of the debts of states, counties, municipalities and school debt of all the states and territories in 1890 was $1,135,210,-642. This gives a per capita of $18.13 in 1890, as compared with $22.40 in 1880.

The real estate mortgages in existence in 1890 were as follows: On municipal property (lots and buildings), $3,810,531,554; on farms, $2,206,148,491.

There is no doubt that the great middle class of the population—the most numerous class—is much better off now than it was in 1860. The aggregate increase of wealth among this class is vastly greater than the increase among the very wealthy. The latter is more conspicuous, and therefore people rush to the conclusion that "the rich are getting richer." The fact is, the poor are getting richer. As to mortgages, a mortgage is not an evidence of distress. On the contrary, it is, in most instances, an evidence of thrift and progress. You will note that city mortgages are greater in value than farm mortgages; and they, as a rule, are for money borrowed to make improvements, which make the property more profitable to the owner, and will enable him to pay it off, and have an increased income thereafter.

The Electoral Count.

"On what day do the electors cast their votes for President? My book on civil government says on the first Wednesday in December."—W. E. W., Carutherville, Mo.

Your book was evidently printed before 1887. The old law provided the first Wednesday in December. Erase that in your book and paste this answer in:

The "electoral count" act was passed in 1887, and it orders that the electors shall meet in their respective states on the second Monday in January. The result of that ballot is transmitted to the president of the Senate of the United States, to be opened by him in the presence of both houses of Congress, when they meet in joint session on the second Wednesday in February to count the ballots.

Settlement of the Colonies.

W. R. O., Bissell, Pa.: Here are the dates and places of permanent settlement of the 13 original states:

1607—Virginia, at Jamestown.
1620—Massachusetts, at Plymouth.
1623—New York, at New York.
1629—New Hampshire, at Exeter.
1633—Connecticut, at Windsor.
1634—Maryland, at St. Marys.
1636—Rhode Island, at Providence.
1638—Delaware, at New Castle.
1664—New Jersey, at Elizabethtown.
1665—North Carolina, at Wilmington.
1671—South Carolina, at Charleston.
1682—Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia.
1733—Georgia, at Savannah.

West Point Academy.

C. I. R., Ballard, Mo.: There are allowed, at the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., one student (cadet) for each Congressional district in every state, one for each territory, and one to the District of Columbia. There are ten appointments at large, which are in the gift of the President, who usually confers these on the sons of men who have distinguished themselves in the military or naval service.

The Representative in Congress makes the appointment from his Congressional district. As the course is four years, but one appointment from a district can be made in that time. The appointee has to pass a very rigid examination in his studies, as well as a thorough physical examination. Appointees must be between 17 and 21.

If you have any idea of a cadetship, your Representative is the proper person to whom to apply.

The Milan Decree.

L. M. K., Oxford, Wis.: Great Britain, which was engaged in a bitter war with France, in May, 1806, proclaimed a blockade of the European coast from Brest to the Elbe. Napoleon retaliated in November by declaring a blockade of all English ports. The next year England issued orders in council, prohibiting commerce with almost every other country in Europe. In December, 1807, Napoleon issued the Milan decree (because he was at Milan when it was issued) forbidding commerce with England or her colonies. These were things which led to the war of 1812. Any good history of the United States will give you fuller particulars.

The Modoc Indians.

C. W. B., Sarcoxie, Mo.: The Modoc Indians were originally a part of the Klamaths. The name Modoc means "enemies," and was given them by foes. Their original location was a tract of 100 miles long by 40 broad, on the south shore of Lake Klamath, California. They were dark colored, with heavy, drowsy face and yellowish eyes. In 1864 they ceded their lands to the government and agreed to go on a reservation. The reservation was not set apart until 1871, and the Modocs were induced to go on part of the Klamath reservation; but they could not live there on account of the scarcity of game; they were cheated out of their allowances, and harassed by the Klamaths. One band of them, under Capt. Jack, harassed the whites, and they were ordered removed to the reservation. The Modocs refused, and fled to the lava beds. Here the commissioners sent by the government to inquire into the matter were attacked by the Modocs, who killed Gen. Canby and Dr. Thomas, and wounded Dr. Meacham. This was on April 11, 1873. On June 1, the Modocs surrendered. Four, including Capt. Jack, were executed at Fort Klamath, October 3. The rest of the captured, numbering 148, were placed on the Quapaw reservation, in the Indian territory. The other band of about 100, which took no part in the war, remained at Fort Klamath. It was the Apaches who were sent to Florida, not the Modocs.

"Potatoes They Grow Small."

"In the Weekly Blade of February 18, under the caption of 'White, of Kansas,' you quote the following lines of a song:

"'O, potatoes they grow small out in Kansas,
And they eat them tops and all out in Kansas.'

"Kindly publish the entire song."—I. N. G., Meadow Dale, Va.

We never saw, nor heard of the song, as applied to Kansas, until the present writer heard Mr. White quote it in his speech at the Ohio League banquet at Zanesville, on February 12. The original song applied to Toledo and the Maumee river region in Ohio. Its author is unknown, but it was first published in the Maumee City Express, on June 24, 1837, though it was then familiar in this section.

The original poem, "On Maumee," is printed on the 5th page of this issue of the Weekly Blade.

Generals in Command.

J. S., Sardis, O.: The following is the list of generals in command of the armies of the United States since 1775:

Maj. Gen. George Washington, 1775-1783.
Maj. Gen. Henry Knox, 1783-1784.
Lieut. Col. Josiah Harmar, general-in-chief by brevet, 1788-1791.
Maj. Gen. Arthur St. Clair, 1791-1792.
Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne, 1792-1796.
Maj. Gen. James Wilkinson, 1796-1798.
Maj. Gen. George Washington, 1798, to his death, Dec. 14, 1799.
Maj. Gen. James Wilkinson, 1800-1812.
Maj. Gen. Henry Dearborn, 1812-1815.
Maj. Gen. Jacob Brown, 1815-1828.
Maj. Gen. Alex. Macomb, 1828-1841.
Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott, (brevet Lieut. Gen.), 1841-1861.
Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, 1861-1862.
Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, 1862-1864.
Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, 1864-1866, and as General to March 4, 1869.
Gen. Wm. T. Sherman, 1869-1883.
Lieut. Gen. Philip Sheridan, 1883-1888.
Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield.
Maj. Gen. Nelson A. Miles.

President for a Day.

"Who was President of the United States but a day?"—H. E. S., Ames, Iowa.

No one. Nothing of the sort ever occurred, notwithstanding the belief a great many people have that there was some one who was President for but a day.

Read the rules above, and don't send but one question, unless they are both about the same subject.

In the Rebellion.

M. L. F., Butler, Mo.: It would take too much research to find out the list of West Point graduates alive at the opening of the civil war, and follow the history of each, to find which side he took. Both in the army and navy, the West Pointers and the graduates of the naval school at Annapolis, as a rule, took the side of the state from which they came. Those who belonged to Southern states "went with their states," when the latter seceded. The only notable exception which we recall is Gen. Thomas, who, though a Virginian, remained with the Union. Probably the percentage of naval officers who remained loyal was larger because the majority of them were from the Northern states. Southern boys were anxious to go to West Point, but did not care for naval life.

Old Coins.

F. B., Maher, Colo.: The coin of which you send a rubbing, is a Spanish real, face value 12½ cents; actual value of silver therein, about 5½ cents. We know nothing of premiums on old foreign coins, nor can we give addresses of buyers of old coins. See Rules above.

Gage and the Greenbacks.

G. M. C., Swanton, O.: The retirement of the greenbacks can only be done through a law passed by Congress. The Secretary of the Treasury has no power to do it. Secretary Gage is in favor of retiring the greenbacks in some way so as to prevent any contraction of the currency; and so is every well-posted man in the United States.

Bureau of American Republics.

G. T. H., Geyser, Mont.: Probably Argentina is the only South American country in which wool can be raised profitably. Write to the Bureau of American Republics, 2 Lafayette Square, Washington, D. C., for information. That Bureau was established for the collection and distribution of commercial information concerning the American republics. The Bureau is sustained by contributions from the various republics, made in proportion to their population.

Pension Questions.

Subscriber, Fairmount, Ga.: The widow of a man who enlisted in the regular army in 1892, was discharged for disability in 1894, and married later, is entitled to a pension if death was due to the disability which caused his discharge.

W. A. N., Doniphan, Mo.: The ruling of the pension office that a soldier's widow whose income equals $96 a year is debarred from pension, has been reversed. A captain's widow gets $20 per month if his death was due to disease or disability contracted in service.

D. B. M., Driscoll, W. Va.: The provision covering the cases of men who served in the Union army after leaving the rebel service was a rider on the appropriation bill which becomes operative on July 1, 1897, and it will be in full force on and after that date.

W. S., Pullman, Wash.: It means the pension law of June 27, 1890, for granting pensions to indigent soldiers without reference to disabilities contracted in the service, and to their widows.

A. H. W., Warsaw, Ill.: We do not recall his name. It was not passed.

D. F. F., Dunkirk, O.: No. The widow of a soldier drawing pension under the act of June 27, 1890, is not entitled to a pension unless she married him before that law was passed.

J. C. G., Stanley, W. Va.: If the real estate was in the wife's name, she can will it to whom she pleases, unless there is some provision of your state laws which prevents it. Consult a lawyer.

T. J. S., Charlotte, Mich.: The members of boards of pension examiners are appointed by the commissioner of pensions, and do not come under the civil service rules.

D. W. P., Fang, Tenn.: You will have to file a new claim.

C. C. L., Badger Mills: For a tombstone for a deceased soldier, apply to "The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D. C."

F. S. C., Wolcott, Ind.: When a soldier goes to a national soldiers' home any private income he may have is his own, including his pension.

E. D., Garden City, Kan.: The widow of a soldier under the old law can draw a pension of $12, no matter when married. The provision of the act of July 27, 1890, applies only to widows of soldiers drawing pension under that law.

D. E. T., Hartville, Mo.: A soldier taking up a homestead must settle upon it, like everybody else. The only advantage he has is that his service shortens the time.

The Largest Ships.

"Will you kindly inform me what is the name of the largest ship known?"—L. N. B., Holden, Mo.

The largest steam vessel is the Pennsylvania, launched September, 1896, from the shipyards of Harland & Wolff, Belfast, Ireland. She is owned by the Hamburg-American line. The Pennsylvania is 568 feet long, has 62 feet beam, is 42 feet deep, is of 20,000 tons displacement, and her dead weight carrying capacity is nearly 14,000 tons. She has quadruple expansion engines, with about 7,-000 combined horse power, designed to develop a speed of fifteen knots. The Pennsylvania has accommodations for over 200 cabin passengers, and for 1,500 steerage passengers.

The largest war ships in the world are the Powerful and the Terrible, sister vessels of the British navy. They are each 538 feet long, 71 feet beam, and 43 feet 4 inches deep from upper deck. The largest United States war vessels are the Columbia and Minnesota, 412 feet long.

The Great Eastern.

S. S. B., Angola, Ind.: The Great Eastern was 680 feet long, 83 feet wide, 58 feet deep, was begun in 1854 and completed in 1859. She was broken up for old iron five or six years ago.

Yale College.

F. M. B., Fristoe, Ky.: The colony of New Haven made a proposition to the Connecticut colony, at Hartford, to erect and maintain "a school for the church" at New Haven, to be supported by contributions from the Congregational churches of the two colonies. In 1699 ten of the principal clergymen were named trustees to found the college. We do not know their names. These met and organized in 1700, and formed a society to consist of eleven ministers, including a rector. They met later at Brantford, and each gave several books as the nucleus of a college library. The institution was chartered in 1701, and the school was opened that fall at Saybrook. In 1716 it was decided to move it to New Haven, and the first building was finished in 1718. In that year it was named Yale College in honor of Elihu Yale, who made donations to it amounting to £500.

Waterproofing Cloth.

Our thanks are due J. R. D., St. Paul, Minn., for the following in reply to a request for a formula for waterproofing cloth. It was first published in the Scientific American:

Dissolve soft soap in hot water, and add a solution of iron sulphate, which forms insoluble iron soap. This is washed and dried and mixed with linseed oil. It does not say how to apply, but I presume a brush would be as handy for ordinary purposes.

It is claimed the iron soap keeps the oil from becoming hard and cracking, and it is unaffected by water.

Speculation.

F. R., Farmington, Pa.: Bankers do not speculate. The business of a banker is the borrowing and loaning of money, not speculation. Speculation in products, such as grain, pork and cotton, and in stocks, is perfectly legitimate. If a man, for instance, believes that corn will be higher in May than it now is, and buys corn for May delivery, what is there wrong in that? If corn is higher then, he makes money; if lower, he loses, of course.

Internal Revenue Positions.

J. R. B., Rupert, Ark.:
G., Belleville, O.:
G. W. R., Ozark, Mo., and
S. S. H., Lancaster, Tex.: Collectors of internal revenue are appointed by the President, and are not under civil service rules. All subordinates in the internal revenue service are, however, under these rules. This includes gaugers, deputy collectors, clerks, etc. To get these minor positions one must pass a civil service examination therefor, and stand high enough to be certified for appointment.

Lighthouse Keepers.

H. A., Forester, Mich.: Lighthouse keepers come under civil service rules. Address "Naval Secretary of Light House Board, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C."

Pickler Pension Bill.

T. B., Sunnybrook, Ky., and
T. R. H., Jasper, Tenn.: The Pickler pension bill passed the House at the first session of the Fifty-fourth Congress, but did not pass the Senate during that Congress. So the bill is dead. It will have to be introduced in the House and passed again if it is desired to revive it. It would increase expenses fully $100,000,000 a year, and hence there is no probability of its becoming a law, or any other pension measure involving such expenditure, for years yet, if ever.

Siege of Lexington.

M. M. M., Chalk, Kas.: The Union forces engaged in the siege of Lexington, Mo., were the Eighth, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh Missouri infantry, Thirteenth and Fourteenth Missouri Home Guards, Berry's and Van Horn's Missouri cavalry, the First Missouri cavalry, and the Twenty-third Illinois infantry. For the names of men captured and paroled, address "Chief of Record and Pensions Division, War Department, Washington, D. C."

State Troops.

H. M. T., Marion, Kas.: New York furnished 193 regiments of infantry, 26 of cavalry, 16 of artillery, and three of engineers and mechanics to the Union army in the rebellion. Pennsylvania furnished 215 regiments of infantry, 22 of cavalry, and six of artillery.

The W. C. T. U.

C. C. J., Burrville, Tenn.: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized at a convention in Cleveland, in 1874. It is now organized in all 44 states, and in every territory except Alaska. There are about 10,000 local unions, with a membership and following of about half a million persons.

Campaign of 1872.

E. H., Pennville, Ind.: The campaign of 1872 was marked by the "Liberal Republican" movement, which aimed to prevent Grant having a second term, and also urgently upheld the abandonment of the spoils system, and the adoption of civil service reform. They held a national convention, and nominated Horace Greeley for president. The Democratic convention adopted the Liberal Republican platform, and endorsed Greeley. The Republican party, in its platform, also indorsed civil service reform, strongly upheld the protective tariff and renominated Grant. A portion of the Democratic party could not stand voting for Greeley, who had been their opponent all his life, and nominated Charles O'Conor. The campaign was largely devoted to criticism of Grant's course during his first term by the Democrats, or to his defense by the Republicans. He was reelected.

Miscellaneous.

J. H., Swanton, O.: We have not the data to answer your query.

S. M., Waynesfield, O.: We think Indian agents are not under the classified civil service.

M. M., Macedon, O.: The United States never issued any bonds made payable in greenbacks.

C. D. S., Ripon, Wis.: There is no regular salary for such positions. Book-keeping by mail is not a success.

J. S., Pinnebog, Mich.: We do not know. Address commissioner of the general land office, Washington, D. C.

M. C. W., Don, Ill.:—Better address a letter to your secretary of state at Springfield and ask for the information.

J. W. C., Ekin, Ill.: Get a bookseller to order for you Laughlin's "History of Bimetallism in the United States."

B. L. B., Sharon, Wis.: We do not recall Beeren Island. Tell us what you know of it, that we may get on its track.

Subscriber, Boreman, W. Va.: We do not know. Write to the superintendent of schools there, inclosing postage, and ask him.

A. R., Bradner, O.: There were 2,275 convicts in the Ohio penitentiary on Feb. 27. The twentieth century begins Jan. 1, 1901.

J. C., Oakley, Kan.: Write to the attorney General of Virginia, at Richmond, Va., inclosing postage, and ask him. We do not know.

H. V., Moline, Ill.: Burmah was annexed to the British Empire, and King Theebaw, we think, is still living, still being nominally king.

D. B. W., Springfield, Mo.: No. John Wanamaker never discharged American citizens to fill their places with imported aliens; never!

E. T. W., Danbury, Neb.: Get the address of some architect or builder in Chicago or other large city, and write to him for the information.

"A. J." Stuart, Iowa: We do not recall the name of the chairman of the Idaho delegation to the Democratic national convention last year.

C. W. N., Vibbard, Mo.: The confederate archives which were not burned at the fall of Richmond are in the government archives at Washington.

G. F., Reading, Ill.: The story you send us about the electoral commission is false. The commission acted honorably, and its decision was just and true.

V. A. C., Circleville, O.: We never heard of the book. The doctrine of the transmigration of souls is directly opposed to Christianity, which teaches the opposite.

E. A. W., Deep Valley, W. Va.: There is no constitution on the 54th parallel of south latitude, because it does not touch any land. Its course is entirely over water.

J. M., Holdredge, Neb., asks for Prof. Hayden's theory of the origin of the formations, springs, etc., in Yellowstone Park. We happen not to have seen it. What friend will kindly sent it for publication?

L. A. E., Goshen, Ark.: We do not know what the state law of Arkansas provides in such a case. Unless the law prohibits it, an appeal to the courts from the decision of the road viewers would be the proper step.

S. C., Orland, Ind., and J. H. D., Junction City, Kas.: A letter addressed to the persons you name at New York city will reach them. Please don't ask us to print addresses of any person or firm. Read rules above.

L. A. W., Bedford, Ia.: The course of training for a nurse is generally two years. Get some good physician to give you the name of some city hospital which has a class of nurses in training, and write there for particulars.

G. W. G., Potts Camp, Miss.: To get rid of fleas under a house, cut a quantity of pennyroyal, and scatter it everywhere the fleas are. If you can not get the herb, get a bottle of the oil of it at a druggist, and pour all the cracks in the floor through which they get into the house.

G. F. S., Salem, Ore.: Please don't write for business addresses. The editor of this department is strictly forbidden to publish them, and could not, therefore answer your question, even if he knew, which he does not. Get some dealer in lamp chimneys to give you the names of manufacturers, if he can not, then let us give you the address of some wholesaler, who certainly can do so, as he must buy of the manufacturers.

POETRY AND PROSE.

Love one morning came a-rapping,
Rapping on her heart;
"Please," said he, "do come and make me
Of your life a part."

Love one morning came a-rapping,
Raising such a din;
Cold, he trembled in the doorway,
And she let him in.

PROSE.

Love one morning came a-rapping,
Rapping as he swore:
"Wife," he said, "do come and open
This confounded door."

Love one morning came a-rapping,
Raising such a din;
Cold, he fumbled for the keyhole,
And she let him in.
—Baltimore News.

A Horrible Revenge.

"Well, Mr. Fostley, did you revenge yourself on Algy since that quarrel you had with him?"

"Yes, indeed. I ordered my man to be rude to his man when he meets him."—London Punch.

March

April, May are the best months for taking a good blood purifier, because the system is now most in need of medicine, and because it more quickly responds to medicinal qualities. In winter impurities do not pass out of the body freely, but accumulate in the blood and threaten health.

April

The best medicine to purify, enrich and vitalize the blood, and thus give strength and build up the system, is Hood's Sarsaparilla. If you are tired, "out of sorts," nervous, have bad taste in the morning, aching or dizzy head, sour stomach and feel all run down, a

May

course of Hood's Sarsaparilla will put your whole body in good order and make you strong and vigorous. Hood's Sarsaparilla effects wonderful cures of Scrofula, Salt Rheum and other blood diseases, even after all other medicines utterly fail. It is the ideal Spring Medicine and true nerve tonic, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Be sure to get Hood's and only HOOD'S. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

HELD UP BY A PICKEREL.

An Amazing Experience With a Monster of the Allegheny Deeps.

It was the very first time I ever saw Uncle Billy Ray, landlord of the Barley Run tavern, says a writer in the New York Sun, and before I was out of the wagon, he took his pipe out of his mouth and said:

"Jim Morse has found his watch."

I had not been aware that Mr. Morse had lost his watch, but I was glad to hear that he had found it. I sat down on the tavern bench.

"Them Allegheny picker'l is terrible savage," said Uncle Billy. "An' big, too, an' allus hungry. Biggest and hungriest picker'l that ever grow'd. But I never 'spected 'em of bein' robbers. They be, though. They stole Jim Morse's watch. Leastways, one of 'em did. Held him up as reg'lar as could be,too, an' took it right offen him, chain an' all. But Jim's found it. I never 'spected he would. I 'spect you're goin' to try the Allegheny picker'l?"

"That's what I came over here for," I replied.

"Well," said Uncle Billy, shaking his head, "you want to look out. They'm actin' bad jist now. Ye better leave your watch to home, if you've got one. 'Taint likely you'd be as lucky about gittin it back ag'in as Jim Morse was. When Jim came in here an' told me his watch had been stolen I felt terrible sorry for him, cause he'd been savin' up for a considerable time to git it, an' 'twa'n't likely that he'd ever git another one. But when he told me who had stole it I jist b'iled over, fer 'twas only the week afore that the only pig that Jim had was stole by a b'ar, an' a hawk stole nine of his chickens, an' now when it come to picker'l-raisin' up an' stealin' his watch, it was more'n I could stand.

"'Ding it!' says I. 'It ain't safe to be in this bailiwick no more!' says I.

"'Course it ain't' says Jim, an' he looked so durn down that I give him two good snifters an' half a pint to take home with him.

"Jim wa'n't out arter picker'l nuther. He was bass fishin'. Right down yonder by Eagle Rock is where it happened. Jim was standin' jist above his knees in the water, playin' a bass he had hooked, when plink! came sumpin' agin his stomach that knocked the wind out of him an' doubled him up most like a jackknife. Now, s'pose you'd been winded and doubled up by a plunk in your stomach like that, an' when you looked down an' see that it was a tremendous big picker'l that done it, an' the picker'l had grabbed your watch chain, an' was tuggin' an' yankin' at it like mad, wouldn't you ben s'prised? Funny if you wouldn't! An' o' course Jim was s'prised when he see that setch was just what was happenin' to him, an' 'fore he got all his wind back and could straighten up, the picker'l had snipped the watch out o' Jim's pocket, yanked the chain loose, an' was divin' back into the water with his booty in his jaws. An' Jim said the picker'l was mean enough to stop when it was half under water an' wiggle its tail at him the aggravatin'est, kind! Durned if it don't make me bile to think of it!

"But yisterday Jim come in here jist yoopin' an' yellin'. I thought for sure that the losin' of his watch had druv him crazy.

"'Billy,' says he, 'I've found my watch!'

"'Jim,' says I, thinkin' as I spoke that he was crazy, 'don't let it work on ye like that. Why, ding it! I'll buy ye another watch myself!' says I.

"'Buy me another un?' says Jim. 'What do I want with another un when I've got my own watch back?' says he, an' he pulled out the watch and chain the picker'l stole.

"'Jem,' says I, 'miracles?'

"'Purty night to it!' says he, an' told me all about it.

"Jim's cousin, Bob Boyden, lives three miles below Eagle Rock. It was two weeks ago today that Jim was robbed by the owdacious picker'l. Bob Boyden's the uncommonest best picker'l ketcher on the river, 'cause he hain't afeerd of 'em. When a feller hooks one o' these Allegheny picker'l an' hauls it in an' gits in sight of it a-coming, if he don't cut his line an' let the picker'l go, that's a fellow that ain't afeerd to tackle his weight in wildcats. Bob Boyden's jist one o' them kind o' chaps, an' he'll go right out all alone and tackle them picker'l any time. Well, sir, day afore yisterday Bob thought he'd go out an' hev some fun with picker'l, and he went. An' I want to tell you, it's a good thing for Jem Morse that he did. Bob hadn't perfected long afore he got a strike that was a strike.

"'Belshazzar's ghost!' says Bob.'There hain't no precedent for setch as that!' says he. 'There's fish on the end o' this line, this trip!' says he.

"'An' there was, you bet? 'Tain't worth while for me to tell you how Bob had to fight an' tussle an' sweat an' swear 'fore he got his picker'l ashore, but he landed 'em. There was two of 'em. But only one of 'em had Bob's hook in its jaw. T'other one had come along, jist the same, 'cause it was fast to the hooked picker'l by a watch chain. Bob said this was the durndest thing he ever see. One end o' the chain was fast in one picker'l's jaw, wedged there tighter'n wax, and t'other end was some'rs in t'other picker'l's innards. Bob felt as if he might as well vent-gate. He ripped t'other picker'l open, an' what do ye think? He found a watch fast in its gullet!

"Bob began to dance for joy over this here prize he had took, but purty soon he stopped an' turned pale. He reco'nized the watch an' chain as Jim Morse's. Now, he hadn't heerd o' Jim havin' his watch stole, so there wa'nt only one thing for him to think had happened.

"'These picker'l has waylaid Jim an' gobbled him,' says Bob, 'an' all that's left is this here watch an' chain, says he.

"Bob didn't lose no time. I can tell ye, gettin' up to Eagle Rock to carry the orful news to Jim's folks. Well—but, o' course you know what the upshot must a ben an' the lively time there was to Jim's. That picker'l had tried to steal the watch from the first picker'l, an' that's the way they both got in a scrape. But it was edgin' purty close on to miracles the way Jim found his watch, wasn't it?"

—If the system is fortified by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which makes rich, red blood, there is little danger of sickness.

A Claim to Antiquity.

"Mother," said a thoughtful Boston child to his maternal relative,

"What is it, Waldo?"

"Is Philadelphia older than Boston, mother?"

"Of course no, my son. The first settlement was made in Charlestown in 1630, while William Penn did not arrive on the site of Philadelphia until fifty-two years later."

"That was always my impression, mother, but how is it that Philadelphia is mentioned in the bible, while Boston is not?"—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Meaning of Hereditary.

Bobby—"Pob, what does hereditary mean?" Fond Parent—"It means, Bobby, something that goes from parent to child. Now see if you can give me an example of something that is hereditary."

Bobby—"Measles. I got 'em from mother."—Brooklyn Life.

Keeping the Peace.

Citizen (breathlessly)—"A lot of roughs are rioting down the street, smashing windows and clubbing inoffensive citizens!"

Policeman—"Been smoking opium, I'm thinkin'. I'll run around and pull a Chinese laundry."—New York Weekly.

At the Gas Office.

"Why don't you turn on the gas?" asked the second clerk.

"Darn it," said the first clerk. "When any one comes in to kick we can tell him we are suffering as much as he is."—Indianapolis Journal.

FREE CURE FOR MEN

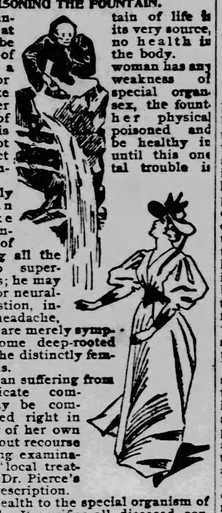
A MICHIGAN MAN OFFERS TO SEND HIS DISCOVERY FREE.

Claims to Be a Benefactor to Weakened Mankind.

There is always more or less suspicion attached to anything that is offered free, but sometimes a man so overflows with generosity that he cannot rest until his discovery is known to the world, in order that his fellow men may profit by what he has discovered. It is upon this principle that a resident of Kalamazoo, Mich., desires to send free to mankind a prescription which will cure them of any form of nervous debility; relieves them of all the doubt and uncertainty which such men are peculiarly liable to and restores the organs to natural size and vigor. As it costs nothing to try the experiment it would seem that any man, suffering with the nervous troubles that usually attack men who never stopped to realize what might be the final result, ought to be deeply interested in a remedy which will restore them to health, strength and vigor, without which they continue to live an existence of untold misery. As the remedy in question was the result of many years' research as to what combination would be peculiarly effective in restoring to men the strength they need, it would seem that all men suffering with any form of nervous weakness ought to write for such a remedy at once. A REQUEST TO H. C. OLDS, BOX 1726 KALAMAZOO, MICH., STATING THAT YOU ARE NOT SENDING FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OUT OF MERE CURIOSITY, BUT THAT YOU WISH TO MAKE USE OF THE MEDICINE BY GIVING IT A TRIAL, will be answered promptly and without evidence as to where information came from.

The prescription is sent free, and although some may wonder how Mr. Olds can afford to give away his discovery, there is no doubt about the offer being genuine. CUT THIS OUT AND SEND TO MR. OLDS SO THAT HE MAY KNOW HOW YOU CAME TO HEAR HIM.

POISONING THE FOUNTAIN.



If the fountain of life is poisoned at its very source, there can be no health in any part of the body. When a woman has any disease or weakness of special organsex, the delicate existence is poisoned and she cannot be healthy in any respect until this one fundamental trouble is cured.

The family physician may make the very common error of ascribing all the trouble to superficial causes; he may prescribe for neuralgia, indigestion, insomnia, or headache, when these are merely symptoms of some deep-rooted malady of the distinctly feminine organs.

Any woman suffering from these delicate complaints may be completely cured right in the privacy of her own home (without recourse to mortifying examinations and "local treatment") by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

It gives health to the special organism of womanhood. It purifies all diseased conditions; gives elastic strength to the ligaments, and vitality to the nerve-centres. It promotes good digestion, sound sleep, and freedom from pain.

It is the only medicine devised for this one purpose by an educated, skilled specialist in this particular field of practice. It is the only medicine which insures prospective mothers against the dangers and sufferings of motherhood.

Dr. Pierce's thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser" contains several chapters devoted to the special physiology of woman, with advice and suggestions for self-treatment which every woman ought to read. A paper-bound copy sent absolutely free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay for mailing *only*; or, cloth-bound, 31 stamps. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

MODEL STORM COAT.

Though of Navy Blue, It Looks Bright With Its Trimmings of Black Persian Lamb.

A dark blue coat looks positively light when trimmed with the dull black of Persian lamb fur. Perhaps that is the reason of the popularity of Persian lamb, because of the contrasts it makes.

For storm, a coat of blue face cloth, with waist cut with cape, is most admirable. It resists the weather and is extremely becoming, something that can not be said of all storm coats.

IDEAL STORM COAT.

A vest of Persian lamb is delightfully effective on this blue coat, as is also a tiny edging of the fur upon the Medici collar. If the flaps of the skirt are lined with a strip of the fur, so much the better.

A pair of Persian lamb cuffs, lined after the latest mode with squirrel skin, can be slipped over the blue storm coat and a muff of the lamb carried. These cuffs are adjustable, being capable of wear upon any street garment. The cuffs are buttoned in place and take only a minute to put on. A lining of black cloth is liked by those who want warmth in a storm coat.

To make this coat into a "gossamer," several yards of figured rubber cloth are needed. Cut the rubber to fit the outside garment, and "tack" along the edges of the outer cloak.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle or common water glass with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates a diseased condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is positive evidence of kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate or pain in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inability to hold the urine and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following the use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up many times during the night to urinate. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists, price fifty cents and one dollar. For a sample bottle and pamphlet, both sent free by mail, mention The Blade and send your full postoffice address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietors of this paper guarantee the genuineness of this offer.

The Reason Why.

English Tourist—Don't any of you Scotchmen wear trousers? What do you do for pockets in those kilts?

McGab—Hoots! For why should we hae pockets whin there's naething but hands tae put in them?—Cleveland Leader.

Which is Worse.

She—What worries you, dear? Have you made any bad investments?

He—No, but your father has.—Detroit Free Press.

The Man Eater.

A man who had tastes anthropophagous
Expired of a severed oesophagus;
They laid him away
Under six feet of clay
In a hieroglyphicked sarcophagus.

Where He Fails.

He sizes up the weather
And he dishes out the snow
But he can't foretell us whether
All our wives are going to "show."
—Pittsburg News.

Do not fail to read Thos. Slater's offer on page 5 for men.

SEND FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE FAMOUS O.I.C. HOGS
TWO OF WHICH WEIGHED 2806 lbs.
FIRST APPLICANT IN EACH LOCALITY SECURES A PAIR ON TIME AND AGENCY.
SOLD 1129 HEAD FIRST 6 MONTHS 1896 FOR BREEDING PURPOSES.
L. B. Silver Co. Cleveland, O.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Retained Afterbirth.

H. C., Ohio: In case of retained afterbirth in a cow, several methods have been recommended for its removal, but the simplest, which should be undertaken within 24 hours after calving. The operator should smear his arms with carbolized lard or vaseline, and inserting the hand, the afterbirth may, by a process of peeling off, be separated from the walls of the uterus. In removing the placenta or afterbirth, take each cotyledon, or button, by which the placenta is attached to the womb, in turn, and by pinching it a little between the thumb and fore-nger, it will detach from it. Carefulness must be exercised so as not to pull off one of the cotyledons, as hemorrhage may cause fatal results. If this should be done cold water thrown on the loins is to be resorted to. The retention of afterbirth for three days will not prove dangerous. When the placenta has been removed, a solution of chloride of lime, an ounce to the quart of water, should be syringed into the vagina. Afterward give a cathartic, say 3¼ lbs. Epsom salts in three pints of warm water, in which is stirred a cupful of molasses. In most cases there is but little danger in removing the afterbirth, providing care has been taken. If there is a tendency to bleed, a full dose of ergot (two ozs. of the powder) may be given.

About Killing Moles.

Editor Blade Farmstead:—I read in The Blade a recipe to kill moles. If it will do as it says it will, it is all right, if they are not too smart to run into the molasses in their runs. As to poisoned parsnips and carrots, they are all right if the moles will eat them. I have tried sweet potatoes poisoned, and other things but they would not eat them, and my lot is honeycombed by the moles. I have a mouse-trap, but I seldom get a mole, and seldom find them at work. I shall try the remedies given in The Blade. I will give you a recipe to kill gophers; it has proved a sure shot: Take small potatoes, plug them as you would a melon; put in a little strychnine; put in plug, tie a thread around the plug, and let them lay over night, and then open the gopher hole and roll in one or two potatoes. Do the same wherever they have thrown up a mound. They will soon all stop work or strike. A person can carry the potatoes in a pocket and where he sees any of their work, put in a potato. It makes quick work. No one need be troubled long with them if they will follow the above.—L. Y. Sherwood, Normal, Ill.

Killed a Valuable Tree.

Editor Blade Farmstead:—Some one said in The Blade a year ago, to use coal oil to kill borers in apple trees. I tried it, and it killed a valuable tree. No more in mine.—O. V. Test, Madren, Ill.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Growing of the Sugar Beet.

Editor Blade Farmstead:—After having seen my recent writings in print in The Blade columns, I feel constrained to relate what I know about the growing of the sugar beet. A few years ago, I think about the year 1891, the district agricultural association of Douglas county, Neb., offered a premium of $60 for a plot of one-third of an acre which should produce the heaviest yield of sugar beets. The following season the society reduced said premium to $30. The inducement to win was still sufficient to cause the writer to make an earnest endeavor. Being a practical gardner and located at that time, close to the city of Omaha, I concluded to try and get the first premium in the year 1892, and to d

Talmage's Sermon.

WINGS OF SERAPHIM.

Pinions That Quiver and Flash With Great Glory.

Washington, March 1.—In this discourse Dr. Talmage takes a most exalted theme, and makes it practical and useful to the last degree. The subject is "Wings of Seraphim," and the text is Isaiah vi. 2: With twain he covered his face, with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

In a hospital of leprosy good king Uzziah had died, and the whole land was shadowed with solemnity, and theological and prophetic Isaiah was thinking about religious things, as one is apt to do in time of great national bereavement, and forgetting the presence of his wife and two sons, who made up his family, he has a dream, not like the dreams of ordinary character, which generally come from indigestion, but a vision most instructive, and under the touch of the hand of the Almighty.

The place, the ancient temple; building grand, awful, majestic. Within that temple a throne higher and grander than that occupied by any czar of sultan or emperor. On that throne, the eternal Christ. In lines surrounding that throne, the brightest celestials, not the cherubim, but higher than they, the most exquisite and radiant of the heavenly inhabitants; the seraphim. They are called burners because they look like fire. Lips of fire, eyes of fire, feet of fire. In addition to the features and the limbs which suggest a human being, there are pinions which suggest the lithest, the swiftest, the most buoyant and the most aspiring of all unintelligent creation—a bird. Each seraph had six wings, each two of the wings for a different purpose. Isaiah's dream quivers and flashes with these pinions. Now folded, now spread, now beaten in locomotion. "With twain he covered his feet, with twain he covered his face, and with twain he did fly."

The probability is that these wings were not all used at once. The seraph standing there near the throne overwhelmed at the insignificance of the paths his feet had trodden as compared with the paths trodden by the feet of God, and with the lameness of his locomotion amounting almost to decrepitude as compared with the divine velocity, with feathery veil of angelic modesty hides the feet. "With twain he did cover the feet."

Standing there overpowered by the overmatching splendors of God's glory, and unable longer with the eyes to look upon them, and wishing those eyes shaded from the insufferable glory, the pinions gather over the countenance. "With twain he did cover the face." Then as God tells this seraph to go to the farthest outpost of immensity on message of light and love and joy and get back before the first anthem, it does not take the seraph a great while to spread himself upon the air with unmatched swiftness, one stroke of the wing equal to ten thousand leagues of air. "With twain he did fly."

The most practical and useful lesson for you and me, when we see the seraph spreading his wings over the feet, is the lesson of humility at imperfection. The brightest angels of God are so far beneath God that he charges them with folly. The seraph so far beneath God, and we so far beneath the seraph in service we ought to be plunged in humility, utter and complete. Our feet, how laggard they have been in the divine service! Our feet, how many missteps they have taken! Our feet, in how many paths of worldliness and folly they have walked!

Neither God nor seraph intended to put any dishonor upon that which is one of the masterpieces of Almighty God—the human foot. Physiologist and anatomist are overwhelmed at the wonders of its organization. The Bridgewater Treatise, written by Sir Charles Bell, on the wisdom and goodness of God as illustrated in the human hand, was a result of the $40,000 bequeathed in the last will and testament of the Earl of Bridgewater for the encouragement of Christian literature. The world could afford to forgive his eccentricities though he had two dogs seated at his table, and though he put six dogs alone in an equipage drawn by four horses and attended by two footmen. With his large bequest inducing Sir Charles Bell to write so valuable a book on the wisdom of God in the structure of the human hand, the world could afford to forgive his oddities. And the world could now afford to have another Earl of Bridgewater, however idiosyncratic, if he would induce some other Sir Charles Bell to write a book on the wisdom and goodness of God in the construction of the human foot. The articulation of its bones, the lubrication of its joints, the gracefulness of its lines, the ingenuity of its cartilages, the delicacy of its veins, the rapidity of its muscular contraction, the sensitiveness of its nerves.

I sound the praises of the human foot. With that we walk or climb or march. It is the foundation of the physical fabric. It is the base of a God-poised column. With it the warrior braces himself for battle. With it the orator plants himself for eulogium. With it the toiler reaches his work. With it the outraged stamps his indignation. Its loss an irreparable disaster.

Its health an invaluable equipment. If you want to know its value, ask the man whose foot paralysis hath shriveled, or machinery hath crushed, or surgeon's knife hath amputated. The Bible honors it. Especial care: "Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone;" "He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;" "thy feet shall not stumble." Especial charge: "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God." Especial peril: "Their feet shall slide in due time." Connected with the world's dissolution: "He shall set one foot on the sea and the other on the earth."

Give me the history of your foot, and I will give you the history of your lifetime. Tell me up what steps it hath gone, down what declivities, and I will know more about you than I want to know. None of us could endure the scrutiny. Our feet not always in paths of God. Sometimes in paths of worldliness. Our feet, a divine and glorious machinery for usefulness and work, so often going in the wrong direction. God knowing every step, the patriarch saying: "Thou settest a print on the heels of my feet." Crimes of the hand, crimes of the tongue, crimes of the eye, crimes of the ear not worse than crimes of the foot. Oh, we want the wings of humility to cover the feet. Ought we not to go into self-abnegation before the all-searching, all-scrutinizing, all-trying eye of God? The seraphs do. How much more we? "With twain he covered the feet."

All this talk about the dignity of human nature is braggadocio and sin. Our nature started at the hand of God regal, but it has been pauperized. There is a well in Belgium which once had very pure water, and it was stoutly masoned with stone and brick; but that well afterward became the center of the battle of Waterloo. At the opening of the battle the soldiers with their sabers compelled the gardener, William Von Kylsom, to draw water out of the well for them, and it was very pure water. But the battle raged, and three hundred dead and half dead were flung into the well for quick and easy burial, so that the well of refreshment became the well of death, and long after, people looked down into the well and they saw the bleached skulls but no water. So the human soul was a well of good, but the armies of sin have fought around it, and fought across it and been slain, and it has become a well of skeletons, Dead bones, dead resolutions, dead opportunities, dead ambitions. An abandoned well unless Christ shall reopen and purify and fill it as the well of Belgium never was. Unclean, unclean. Another seraphic posture in the text: "With twain he covered the face." That means reverence Godward. Never so much irreverence abroad in the world as to-day. You see it in the defaced statuary, in the cutting of figures from fine paintings, in the chipping of monuments for a memento, in the fact that military guard must stand at the grave of Lincoln and Garfield, and that old shade trees must be cut down for firewood, though fifty George P. Morrises beg the woodmen to spare the tree, and that calls a corpse a cadaver, and that speaks of death as going over to the majority, and substitutes for the reverent terms father and mother, "the old man" and "the old woman," and finds nothing impressive in the ruins of Baalbec or the columns of Karnac, and sees no difference in the Sabbath from other days except it allows more dissipation, and reads the Bible in what is called higher criticism, making it not the word of God but a good book with some fine things in it. Irreverence never so much abroad.

How many take the name of God in vain, how many trivial things said about the Almighty. Not willing to have God in the world, they roll up an idea of sentimentality and humanitarianism and impudence and imbecility, and call it God. No wings of reverence over the face, no taking off of shoes on holy ground. You can tell from the way they talk they could have made a better world than this, and that the God of the Bible shocks every sense of propriety. They talk of the love of God in a way that shows you they believe it does not make any difference how bad a man is here, he will come in at the shining gate. They talk of the love of God in a way which shows you they think it is a general jail delivery for all the abandoned and the scoundrelly of the universe. No punishment hereafter for any wrong done here.

The Bible gives two descriptions of God, and they are just opposite, and they are both true. In one place the Bible says God is love. In another place the Bible says God is a consuming fire. The explanation is plain as plain can be. God through Christ is love. God out of Christ is fire. To win the one and to escape the other we have only to throw ourselves, body, mind and soul into Christ's keeping. "No," says irreverence, "I want no atonement, I want no pardon, I want no intervention; I will go up and face God, and I will challenge him, and I will defy him, and I will ask him what he wants to do with me." So the finite confronts the infinite, so a tack hammer tries to break a thunderbolt, so the breath of human nostrils defies the everlasting God, while the hierarchs of heaven bow the head and bend the knee as the King's chariot goes by, and the archangel turns away because he cannot endure the splendor, and the chorus of all the empires of heaven comes in with full dinpason, "holy, holy, holy!"

Reverence for sham, reverance for the old merely because it is old, reverence for stupidity however learned, reverence for incapacity however finely inaugurated, I have none. But we want more reverence for God, more reverence for the sacraments, more reverence for the Bible, more reverence for the pure, more reverence for the good. Reverence is a characteristic of all great natures. You hear it in the roll of the master oratorios. You see it in the Raphaels, and Titians and Ghirlandajos. You study it in the architecture of the Ahollabs and Christopher Wrens. Do not be flippant about God. Do not joke about death. Do not make fun of the Bible. Do not deride the Eternal. The brightest and mightiest seraph cannot look unabashed upon him. Involuntarily the wings come up. "With twain he covered his face."

Who is this God before whom the arrogant and intractable refuse reverence? There was an engineer by the name of Strasicrates, who was in the employ of Alexander the Great, and he offered to hew a mountain in the shape of his master, the emperor, the enormous figure to hold in the left hand a city of ten thousand inhabitants, while with the right hand it was to hold a basin large enough to collect all the mountain torrents. Alexander applauded him for his ingenuity, but forbade the enterprise because of its costliness. Yet I have to tell you that our King holds in one hand all the cities of the earth, and all the oceans, while he has the stars of heaven for his tiara.

Earthly power goes from hand to hand, from Henry I to Henry II and Henry III, and from Charles I to Charles II, and from Louis I to Louis II and Louis III, but from everlasting to everlasting is God. God the first, God the last, God the only. He has one telescope with which he sees everything: His omniscience. He has one bridge with which he crosses everything: His omnipresence. He has one hammer with which he builds everything: His omnipotence. Put two tablespoonfuls of water into the palm of your hand and it will overflow; but Isaiah intimates that God puts the Atlantic and the Pacific, the Arctic and the Antarctic, and the Mediterranean and the Black Sea and all the waters of the earth in the hollow of his hand. The fingers the beach on one side, the wrist the beach on the other. "He holdeth the water in the hollow of his hand."

As you take a pinch of salt or powder between your thumb and two fingers, so Isaiah indicates, God takes up the earth. He measures the dust of the earth, the original there indicating that God takes all the dust of all the continents between the thumb and two fingers. You wrap around your hand a blue ribbon five times, ten times. You say it is five hand-breadths, or it is ten hand-breadths. So indicates the prophet God winds the blue ribbon of the sky around his hand. "He meteth out the heavens with a span."

You know that balances are made of a beam suspended in the middle with two basins at the extremity of equal heft. In that way what vast heft has been weighed. But what are all the balances of earthly manipulation compared with the balance Isaiah saw suspended when he saw God putting into the scales the Alps and the Appennines and Mount Washington and the Sierra Nevadas. You see the earth had to be ballasted. It would not do to have too much weight in Europe or too much weight in Asia, or too much weight in Africa, or in America, so when God made the mountains he weighed them. The Bible distinctly says so. God knows the weight of the great ranges that cross the continents, the tons, the pounds, avoirdupois, the ounces, the grains, the milligrammes—just how much they weighed then, and just how much they weigh now. "He weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance." Oh, what a God to run against, oh, what a God to disobey, oh, what a God to dishonor, oh, what a God to defy! The brightest, the mightiest angel takes no familiarity with God. The wings of reverence are lifted. "With twains he covered the face."

Another seraphic posture in the text. The seraph must not always stand still. He must move, and it must be without clumsiness. There must be celerity and beauty in the movement. "With twain he did fly." Correction, exhilaration. Correction at our slow gait, for we only crawl in the service when we ought to fly at the divine bidding. Exhilaration in the fact that the soul has wings as the seraphs have wings. What is a wing? An instrument of locomotion. They must not be like seraph's wing, they may not be like bird's wing, but the soul has wings. God says so. "He shall mount up on wings as eagles." We are made in the divine image, and God has wings. "Under the shadow of his wings." "Under whose wings hast thou come to trust." The soul with folded wing now, wounded wing, broken wing, bleeding wing, caged wing. Ave! I have it now. Caged within bars of bone and under curtains of flesh, but one day to be free. I hear the rustle of pinions in Seagrave's poem which we sometimes sing:

Rise, my soul, and stretch thy wings.

I hear the rustle of pinions in Alexander Pope's stanza, where he says:

I mount, I fly,
O Death where is thy victory?

A dying Christian not long ago cried out, "Wings, wings, wings!" The air is full of them, coming and going, coming and going. You have seen how the dull, sluggish chrysalid becomes the bright butterfly; the dull and the stupid and the lethargic turned into the alert and the beautiful. Well, my friends, in this world we are in the chrysalid state. Death will unfurl the wings. Oh, if we could only realize what a grand thing it will be to get rid of this old clod of the body and mount the heavens, neither seagull nor lark, nor albatross, nor falcon, nor condor pitching from highest range of Andes so buoyant or so majestic of stroke.

See that eagle in the mountain nest. It looks so sick, so ragged-feathered, so worn out and so half asleep. Is that eagle dying? No. The ornithologist will tell you it is the moulting season with that bird. Not dying, but moulting. You see that Christian sick and weary and worn out and seeming about to expire on what is called his death-bed. The world says he is dying. I say it is the moulting season for his soul—the body dropping away the celestial pinions coming on. Not dying, but moulting. Moulting out of darkness and sin and struggle into glory and into God. Why do you not shout? Why do you sit shivering at the thought of death and trying to hold back and wishing you could stay here forever, and speak of departure as though the subject were filled with skeletons and the varnish of coffins, and as though you preferred lame foot to swift wing?

O people of God, let us stop playing the fool and prepare for rapturous flight. When your soul stands on the verge of this life, and there are vast precipices beneath, and sapphired domes above, which way will you fly? Will you swoop or will you soar? Will you fly downward or will you fly upward? Everything on the wing this day bidding us aspire. Holy Spirit on the wing. Angel of the New Covenant on the wing. Time on the wing, flying away from us. Eternity on the wing, flying toward us. Wings, wings, wings!

Live so near to Christ that when you are dead, people standing by your lifeless body will not soliloquise, saying: "What a disappointment life was to him; how averse he was to departure; what a pity it was he had to die; what an awful calamity!" Rather standing there may they see a sign more vivid on your still face than the vestiges of pain, something that will indicate that it was a happy exit—the clearance from oppressive quarantine, the cast-off chrysalid, the moulting of the faded and the useless, and the ascent from malarial valleys to bright, shining mountain tops, and to be let fly away, as they stand there contemplating your humility and your reverence in life, and your happiness in death: "With twain he covered the feet, with twain he covered the face, with twain he did fly." Wings! Wings! Wings!

STORY OF A TELEGRAM.

Effort of a Daughter to Get Her Money's Worth Out of the Company.

She was coming home from the West to spend the Christmas holidays, and about two hours out from Chicago she made up her mind that she ought to telegraph to her father the time of her arrival, so that, according to custom, he could meet her and carry her bundles for her, says the New York Sun. The porter of the sleeper brought a telegraph blank to her and she wrote:

Arrive at Grand Central station 1:45 to-morrow.

Womanlike, she counted the words. There were only nine. She said to herself:

"It's a shame to let a telegraph company get ahead of me. I know its only 2½ cents, but 2½ cents is as much to me as it is to the Western Union Telegraph Company. I'll make them send that other word."

Then she read the telegram over and over. It contained exactly what she wanted to say and all she wanted to say. She was half tempted to let it go as it was, even if the company did get pay for something it did not do. Then she thought of the tremendous profits the telegraph companies made, and she stamped her foot and said emphatically:

"They shan't make a cent, not a cent that they don't earn. It would be different if they paid high wages to their employes and contributed to charities and helped support the church, but they don't, and I won't let them have a penny."

She went over her telegram. She twisted the sentence into a dozen different forms, but none of them suited so well as the original one. She thought of adding "Merry Christmas" or "Happy New Year." But either one would go beyond the ten-word limit, which would be just as bad as being under the limit.

"Ah," she said at last, "I know what I'll do. I'll put 'amen' at the end. That means 'so be it,' and is just as good as three words; but they can only charge for one; so I'll get the best of the company by a word." So it read:

Arrive at Grand Central station 1:45 to-morrow. Amen.

And that's the way the telegram was sent. The operator who sent it said to himself: "She means 'A. M.,' but she's written 'amen' and I'll send it that way. Maybe it's cipher." The operator who received it "broke" when he came to the word and asked "what?" The sender repeated it. The operator receiving it said "what?" again, and it was repeated again with the remark that "she probably meant 'A. M.,' but it read 'Amen.'" So the telegram reached her home. Her father read it over twice and said it was strange that she should take a train that would land her at such an outlandish hour. The mother exclaimed:

"Why, it's 'amen,' not 'A. M.'"

"I know," assented the father, "but that's evidently a mistake. There's no sense in putting 'amen' there."

"Well, it says 'amen,'" persisted the mother.

"But it means 'A. M.,' insisted the father, who forthwith went to the station and asked the operator about it. The operator said it undoubtedly meant "A. M."

So it happened that the father was at the station to meet the first train in the morning that arrived after 1:45 a. m. He figured that if she arrived at the Grand Central at 1:45 she would just have time to get down town and catch this train to her home, which was 24 miles out of the city. This train arrived at 4:30 o'clock. To meet it it was necessary for the father to get up at 3:30 o'clock. At that hour the alarm clock sounded and the father and mother got up. The mother insisted that the father should have a cup of hot coffee before going out in the chilly air, and the whole household was astir. The father got to the station at 4:15. The train was late. He waited around in the cold. The train came at last; but no daughter was on it. So he went home. Her train must have been late, he thought, and she missed this one. At half past 5 he went out again, and again at 6 and at half past 6, and he kept going all day until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. She arrived then, and as she fell into his arms and smothered him with bundles she told him how good he was to meet her. He told her he had been waiting since 4 o'clock in the morning and she exclaimed:

"Why, the very idea! and I telegraphed you that I would be at the Grand Central at 1:45. Here is the telegram I sent—I kept a copy: 'Arrive at Grand Central station at 1:45 to-morrow. Amen.' You know there were only nine words, and I put the 'amen' in to make the ten."

The father looked out from among the bundles into her eyes, and in the kindness of his heart all that he could bring himself to say was "oh!"

La Grippe

If you have had the Grippe, you know its aches and pains, the fever, the chills, the cough, the depression—you know them all. The Grippe exhausts the nervous system quickly, lowers the vitality. Two things should be done at once:—the body must be strengthened, and force must be given to the nervous system. Cod-liver Oil will do the first; Hypophosphites the second. These are permanently and pleasantly combined in Scott's Emulsion.

It lifts the despondency and heals the inflamed membranes of the throat and lungs.

But you need not have LA GRIPPE.

You can put your system in a condition unfavorable to it. You can have rich, red blood; resistive strength; steady brain and nerves. Scott's Emulsion prevents as well as cures.

And whether you send or go for Scott's Emulsion, be sure you get the genuine.

SCOTT & BOWNE, New York.

Painless Method.

Mrs. Achem (reading)—The Chinese are a cheerful people. In China, while the dentist pulls the tooth an assistant stands by and drowns the lamentations of the victim in the noise of a large gong.

Mr. Achem—So they have adopted the painless method of extracting teeth in China, too, eh?—Norristown Herald.

Not Plagiarism.

Spats—Hackley is being accused of plagiarism in his last book.

Scratoots—I would not say that. He was merely collecting his thoughts.—Pittsburg News.

Interesting.

"Why are you staring at me like that?" irritably asked the young lord of the money-lender.

"Because you are an object of interest to me, my lord," replied the money-lender.—Fun.

An Actor.

"Ah," said Sherlock Holmes, "the murderer surely must have been an actor."

"Why so?"

"See, he ate the dead man's lunch. Not a crumb left."—Philadelphia North American.

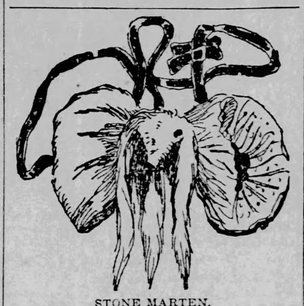
SOME MUFFS THAT ADORN.

FURS AND STYLES THAT LEND BEAUTY AND COMFORT.

The Big Round Muffs and the Pouch-Shaped Ones—Bejewelled Chains That Cost Almost Any Price.

This is the weather for muffs, and it sounds odd to hear furriers say that the season is over at the time when a muff is most needed.

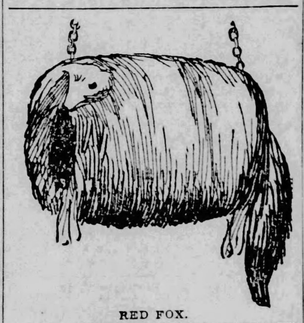
The average woman uses her muff to keep her hands warm and as a weapon of attack and defense. What man can resist when a pretty girl puts her fluffy blue fox or chinchilla muff to her face after a fashion that pretty girls have and peers up at him over it with a smile? Or what



STONE MARTEN.

man can withstand her when she turns her hand protector into a heart protector and hides a tell-tale face in the merciful fur? Muffs answer both purposes better this year than ever before, for they are much larger.

As a rule, it is hardly fair to say that one fur is more popular than another, but this year stone marten fur muffs have easily taken the lead, says the New York Sun. The stone marten is closely allied to the sable, and is found in Europe. Its fur is richly shaded from a very light



RED FOX.

grayish brown to dark brown, and is long, silky and soft. It is made up in immense plain round muffs, but these have not been so popular as the large pouch-shaped affairs, finished with flaring ends, and lined with a very light tone of satin or Dresden silk visible at each end in a rather conspicuous frill, and trimmed in front with two heads and several tails. At the back of the muff there is an ample pocketbook. Persian lamb and krimmer are also made up in the same style. One particularly pretty design in Persian lamb is lined with black and rose brocade, and has a huge rose bow of broad black satin ribbon for trimming.

Dyed blue fox muffs, extra large and

FANCY LACE MUFF.

round, have been much in demand, and a very handsome one is obtainable just now for $25. One of real blue fox would cost three times that amount. The blue fox is particularly becoming to those with high color, and equally unbecoming to pale, sallow persons.

Muffs of red fox fur, going off from very light yellowish tan to rich reddish shades at the end, are popular and cheap, as the red fox is an American native and an easy mark for hunters. A unique design has the head and forefeet of the animal arranged at one end the bushy tail and hind feet at the other, so that, when the hands are thrust in, the wearer looks

DYED BLUE FOX MUFF.

as if she had a good grip on a live fox. Large sable muffs are more in demand than those of sealskin, and a single one often represents a small fortune. Plain and pouch-shaped muffs made entirely of ermine have been brought out, but have found little appreciation. A good many black velvet muffs, however, are trimmed with straps of ermine and lined with cerise, yellow or pale blue satin.

Velvet muffs are far more dressy than those of fur. They are made usually by milliners. They combine velvet, lace or chiffon, and fur in charming effects, and occasionally feathers are used. The fashion of wearing flowers on the muff

A KRIMMER MUFF.

has had its day. Velvet muffs are made usually to match special costumes; one ordered to go with a green velvet gown is of green velvet and is pouch-shaped, with very full flaring ends to show much of the black and yellow brocade lining. The body of the muff is a band of mink, and several sable heads and tails emerge from a nest of plaited chiffon. Loops of broad black satin ribbon fall into the folds of the velvet.

The muff chain is by no means the least important feature of a muff. Although the muff itself may have cost $100, the chain by which it is suspended from the wearer's neck often represents three or four times that sum, if the links

WITH A ROSE BOW.

are of pure gold and joined together with diamonds, rubies or whole pearls, as they frequently are. Few can afford chains of such magnificence, however. The silver gilded ones formed of carbochon, amethysts, turquoise, garnets, emeralds, topaz, or lapis lazuli are equally pretty to look at, and cost only from $5 to $25 each. Bright silver woven chains look particularly well with blue fox, chinchilla or any light fur, while the gilded ones are preferred to light up dark furs. These are obtainable as low as $4.50 each. The rope is the most popular pattern for muff chains. These are heavier than lorgnette or watch chains, not quite so long, and fasten with two swivels. A particularly handsome one made for a woman in mourning is wrought of steel, and has dull gold slides, swivels and balls.

Many persons still cling to the style of slinging their muffs about their necks by ribbons embellished with silver or gold buckles and slides, which render them adjustable. These ribbons vary in price from $1.50 to $50 each. Some of the buckles are studded with precious stones; others are set with mock gems, and still others are enamelled. One of the most striking of the buckles is of plain silver, with a beaded edge and space enough for a handsome monogram.

STRANGER COULD PREACH.

The Pastor Had Not Understood His Name.

Late one Saturday night there arrived at a town in the mountainous regions of Pennsylvania a total stranger—a tall, gaunt, light-complexioned man, with rather low, retreating forehead and high cheek-bones, says the Boston Post. He spent the night at the public house and the next morning made his way to the Methodist church and accosted the pastor, telling him that he was a brother in the ministry. He seemed so awkward and plain in appearance that the pastor was half inclined to omit the courtesy due a brother pastor of asking him to deliver a sermon. If he inquired of the stranger as to his name he failed to catch it and had no definite idea to whom he was speaking. His request for the stranger to preach was therefore expressed in the most formal and constrained manner. The stranger readily agreed to fill the pulpit and the pastor's chagrin was evident as he resigned himself to his fate.

The visitor commenced in a low and deliberate tone but warmed as he proceeded and preached a most powerful sermon, and everybody in the audience whispered to his neighbor: "Who is he?"

Before he had taken his seat the pastor had him by the hand.

"What did you say your name was?"

"Simpson," was the reply.

"What! Not the bishop?" said the startled preacher.

"That is what they call me," said the tall, gaunt man.

The minister instantly sprang to his feet and shouted:

"You have just had the privilege of listening to Bishop Simpson. Let us sing 'Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow.'"

A Point to Remember.

If you wish to purify your blood you should take a medicine which cures blood diseases. The record of cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla proves that this is the best medicine for the blood ever produced. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures the most stubborn cases, and it is the medicine for you to take if your blood is impure.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best after-dinner pill; assist digestion, cure headache. 25 cents.

AN APPEAL THAT CAUGHT HIM.

The Bellicose Butcher Boy Bested in the First Round.

The butcher's boy, who had called to deliver a parcel, had thoughtlessly left the garden gate open and the 7-year old ruler of the house called after him: "Here! Come back and shut that gate!"

The butcher's boy stopped, says the Chicago Times-Herald, but showed no inclination to obey the command. "I don't have to," he shouted defiantly.

"Yes, you do," insisted the 7-year old. "You come right back and shut it now or somebody's going to get the worst licking he ever had."

The butcher's boy came running back, full of fight.

"He is, eh?" he said, "well, who's going to lick 'im, eh?"

"Mother is," calmly remarked the youngster. "If you leave that gate open I'll be certain to go out into the street; mother'll see me and I'll get licked. Shut it tight, please, so I can't get out."

And the butcher's boy did.

Free to Our Readers.—The New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.

As stated in our last issue the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, is proving a wonderful curative in all diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or disordered action of the kidneys and urinary organs. The New York World publishes the remarkable case of Rev. A. C. Darling, minister of the gospel at North Constantia, New York, cured by Alkavis when, as he says himself, he had lost faith in man and medicine and was preparing himself for certain death. Similar testimony to this wonderful new remedy comes from others, including many ladies suffering from the disorders peculiar to womanhood. The Church Kidney Cure Co., of No. 418 Fourth avenue, New York, who so far are its only importers, are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of The Blade who is a sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder Disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis free. To prove its wonderful curative powers, it is sent to you entirely free.

Diplomacy.

His Father—"If you marry old Stubbs' daughter you shan't have a cent of my money."

The Son—"But, father, if I don't marry her I can't get a cent of old Stubbs' money."

His Father (with a grudge to satisfy)—"My own boy! Marry her and render that old skinflint penniless."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

A Great Joke.

Grave Caller—Can you use a good joke?

Editor—Certainly! H' ha! ha! Got a photograph of yourself?—Philadelphia North American.

The Sunday School.

LESSON II, MARCH 14, 1897.

Saul, the Persecutor, Converted.

Golden Text:—This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.—I. Tim. 1:15.

(Acts 9:1-12, 17-20.)

1. And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2. And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus, and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4. And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5. And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7. And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

8. And Saul arose from the earth: and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

9. And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

10. And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth.

12. And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

* * * * *

17. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20. And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

Illustrative Applications.

And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest (v. 5). In Paul's account of his conversion, which he rehearses to the throng from the stairs leading from the temple to the castle of Antonia, he gives us fuller version of this reply from the glorified Christ: "I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest." How significant it all is of the thorough identification of our Lord with those who believe on him! Nazareth was the meanest town in Palestine. The proverb was, "Can any good come out of it?" The gibe they flung at Jesus during his earthly life was that he was a Nazarene. But though now in heaven there flashes upon his brow the diadem of the universe, he has severed no tie binding him to the lowest and meanest. He is Jesus of Nazareth still. Though glorified, he is glorified in our nature. On the highest throne he is still brother, and refusing to cast away even the lowliest sign and title of such brotherhood. And how could Saul persecute this Jesus who had passed through the heavens? Why, when he would lay violent hand on the lowliest believer in Jerusalem or Damascus, so utter is the identification of even the glorified Lord with those who trust him, that he was precisely as though Saul had smitten Jesus himself. For these humble believers were members of his body. If I prick but my least finger I wound myself. If you do even slightest harm to one who is the Lord's, you have harmed the Lord. I think this wonderful fact of the thorough identification of our Lord with those who trust him ought to make Christians take exceeding care of their treatment of each other. To wound even one of Christ's people was to wound Christ. To tell scandal about, to be harsh toward, to be unforgiving to, one of his, is to be and do these things toward the Lord. You would not do such things toward the Lord? Then be careful that you refrain from such things toward his followers. And what opportunity for service this great fact opens! I need not go on a hunt after something surprising in order to serve Jesus. When I lend a hand to any little one for his sake, I am serving Christ as really as though I were casting my crown before his throne in the highest heaven. Inasmuch as ye did it to one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me."

But rise, and enter into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do (v. 6). God does not disclose to us everything at once. Do the thing he commands, and further knowledge will follow, as it did to Saul. Do not wait to wonder what the city shall reveal; do not strainingly attempt to know beforehand all about it; simply go and do as God directs. There is no more practical and helpful suggestion for the carrying on of one's life than this: Do the next thing, instead of wasting energy in questioning about the tenth thing. When, through doing each next thing, the tenth thing has gotten to be the next, it will stand in clear light before you. Energy given to present duty is the best way to accumulate energy for future duty.

And when his eyes were opened, he saw nothing (v. 8). Saul became a Christian the instant he surrendered to Jesus. And although now he had crossed the line into the kingdom, it was all dark to him. If no light comes to you, do not be troubled, but trust and do. The sun shines even if I can not see it. And Jesus Christ is my personal Saviour the moment I submit to him, even though I may have as yet no consciousness of it.

And straightway there fell from his eyes, as it were, scales (v. 18). Be obedient, trustful, prayerful, and you are bound at last to see clearly. The reason why the scales stay on the eyes of so many people is because they refuse to obey as far as they know. Once a Christian woman told me, in effect, it had been as though scales were before her eyes for twenty years. At the same time she confessed that for all those twenty years she had been refusing to do what she knew she ought in a certain direction. I urged her to at least attempt the duty. She did. She found it very easy, though she had been so long time darkly dreading it. And then she saw, and with such joyful clearness! What a pity it is that people will so hug the scales! How much they miss!

And straightway in the synagogues he proclaimed Jesus, that he is the Son of God (v. 20). How revolutionary the change in this Saul who became Paul! Heed some on the elements of the change. It was a change of creed as to thought of Christ: "I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth." But the change came: "And straightway in the synagogues he proclaimed Jesus, that he is the Son of God." It was a change of creed as to ground of salvation: "If any other man thinketh to have confidence in the flesh, I yet more." But the change came, and "nowbeit what things were gain to me, these have I counted loss of Christ." It was a change of action. Then the persecutor. But the change came, and "I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." It was a change in will, the controlling thing in a man, "the momentum of the moral being." Before, he was utterly as he could be against Christ. But after the change the entire flow of his nature was precisely reversed. How gloriously achieving is our Christianity! Those are true words of Lord Lyttleton: "The conversion and apostleship of St. Paul alone, duly considered, is of itself a demonstration sufficient to prove Christianity to be a divine relation." For what can work such changes but the grace of God?—Wyland Hoyt, D. D., in S. S. Times.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Practical.

"Dishere am de time o' y'ah," said Uncle Eben, "when chahity counts. Eny man kin show de practical side ob 'is nature by leffin' de fermometer alone an' putting down yer few maisurements o' de cold wedder in 'is check book."—Washington Star.

A WONDERFUL NEW COLLAR

A Neck Dress of Cream Crepe de Chine and Rhinestones.

A brand-new collar made its appearance at the opera the first night Calve sang Marguerite. The Metropolitan Opera House sees the first of the styles, but seldom anything as completely an innovation as this.

The material is crepe de chine, cream-white and very fleecy to the touch. The kind that

TO BE WORN THIS SPRING.

is most "crinkly" answers the description best.

The collar that went around the neck was a triple ruching of the crepe de chine without edging of any kind. It was gathered very full and set high around the throat, like a snow-cloud.

At the front there was a startling bow of crepe de chine, stiffened with a lining of silk. Two very long and very full ends fell to the waist, where they were finished with a double ruffle of the crepe de chine.

The ruching on the ends and at the neck is described as perfectly plain, but throughout it there glistened the tiniest sparkle, as though very small beads of rhinestones were sewed here and there along its entire length. The effect was not bright enough to be "beaded," and at first it looked like a silver dot in the material.

The hat worn with this had a ruching of the crepe de chine set around a plaited crown of amber velvet, embroidered in rhinestones.

A BIT OF FUN.

Not a Joque.—
She bought a most beautiful toque,
Likewise a handsome seal cloque,
And her husband fell ill
When he paid the bill,
And loudly exclaimed, "Holy smoque!"
—Omaha World-Herald.

His Poor Bruised Heart.—
They were sitting at the table,
And had quarreled, it was plain,
For his eyes were red with weeping
And his face was drawn with pain.

They'd been married but a fortnight,
And she'd said he couldn't make
Such pancakes and such biscuits
As her father used to bake.
—Cleveland Leader.

To Celia.—
Dear, if you carelessly agree,
With that so irritating air,
To every word that falls from me—
Dear, if you care

To drive a lover to despair,
With bland oh, yes! and ah, I see!—
Why, do it, if you like, and—there!

It vindicates my theory:
No woman's wise as well as fair!
And yet—how clever you can be,
Dear, if you care!
—Pall Mall Gazette.

Now and Then—
We stood on the steps in the moonlight,
My dear little girl and I,
The evening was perfume-laden,
The breeze floated gently by.
The foolish thing that we uttered
Can never be told by pen,
And she thought I was doing my pockets—
I thought 'twas so cunning then.

We're married now, and the moonlight
Falls just as it did before,
And I am drowsily dreaming
Of days that can come no more;
For she waits until the angel of slumber
Descends on my weary brow,
And then she searches my pockets—
But it isn't so cunning now.
—New York Journal.

—Hawking and spitting is a sure indication of that

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1897.

Largest and Best Weekly Published, and Largest Circulation!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 135,000

THE BLADE BICYCLE.

Probably quite a number of readers of The Blade are thinking of purchasing bicycles this spring. If you are one of the number, wait for the announcement of the Blade bicycle. Every one who bought one of them last year was perfectly satisfied with his bargain. The Blade wheel for 1897 will have all the latest improvements, will be of the latest pattern, is a wheel that retails for $85 anywhere in the United States when bought by dealers, but which we will sell at a figure which will enable you to save almost half that amount. Our announcement will be printed in a few weeks. Wait for it, and save money!

THE OATH FIRST.

Major McKinley, so say the Washington quidnuncs, will go back to the precedent set by the first president, and take the oath of office before delivering his inaugural address. He desires, it is said, to outline his policy as chief magistrate in that address, and he wishes to be actually president when he does so.

The majority of the presidents followed the other course—delivered the inaugural, and then took the oath of office. The point is immaterial, of course. The precedents set by prior presidents are given as follows:

Washington took the oath of office before he made his address. John Adams, the second President, followed Gen. Washington's example, but Thomas Jefferson read his address before kissing the Bible. James Madison followed Thomas Jefferson's precedent and so did James Monroe on his first inaugural. But when the latter was inaugurated the second time, for some reason he reversed the order and took the oath first. John Quincy Adams made his address first and so did Andrew Jackson at his first inaugural. But, like Monroe, he took the oath first on his second induction into office. Martin Van Buren, James K. Polk and Zachary Taylor all delivered their addresses before they were sworn into office. But William Henry Harrison followed a style peculiarly his own, for he began his address first, and before he reached his closing sentences he stopped and took the oath of office and then delivered his peroration. Franklin Pierce took the oath of office first, but Buchanan took it last. When Abraham Lincoln was first inaugurated he read his address before being sworn in, but like Monroe and Jackson, on his second inauguration he took the oath first. Gen. Grant was sworn in at both of his inaugurations before he delivered his address, but Gen. Hayes made his speech before he was sworn in. Garfield took the oath of office before he spoke, and so did Gen. Harrison, but Grover Cleveland at both of his inaugurations told the people what he was going to do before he was sworn into office.

Major McKinley proposes also, it is said, to make his inaugural address short. Everybody will be glad of this. Millions of people naturally desire to know what he has to say, but they do not care to wade through columns of small type in the newspapers to find out. If he puts compactly what he desires to do, with a brief resume of his reasons therefor, in a thousand words or so, it will be read by ten times as many people as one of four or five thousand words, as were the last two inaugural addresses.

SENATOR WOLCOTT'S MISSION.

Senator Wolcott has returned to London from his trip to the continental capitals, and expresses himself encouraged at the result of his mission. It is to be regretted that he is not more explicit as to the nature of the encouragement he received—especially as to the views of European bimetallists upon the question of the ratio.

From increased production as related to the demand, and other causes of less influence, the value of silver has fallen within the past thirty odd years about one-half. The ratio which the silver men of this country blindly demand represented a close approximation to the fact at the time it was fixed. At that period, an ounce of gold and sixteen ounces of silver had practically the same value as bullion. Hence the ratio of 16 to 1 in coinage was a correct one.

Now, however, about 31 ounces of silver correspond in value to one ounce of gold. The fundamental error of the silver men is in stupidly adhering to the old ratio, refusing to admit the fact that silver and gold coins of the same nominal value cannot be made to circulate at the same real value unless the bullion they contain is of equal value in open market.

European bimetallists admit this fact. They realize that the ratio of 16 to 1 is impossible, under the conditions now existing. But right here comes in a practical objection to the adoption of real bimetallism; and it is a potent one with France, which has a large amount of silver in circulation, which she holds at par with gold in practically the same way as does the United States. She would have to recoin this, increasing the weight of the pieces to correspond with the new ratio; and this would involve an expense of many millions of francs, which she does not care to incur.

When the Fifty-first Congress expended $86,580 on contested election cases, it broke the record up to that time; but the Fifty-fourth Congress has gone beyond it. The contested election cases before the present Congress have cost the public treasury $124,861.82. There should be some mode of settling these contests without its costing the government anything. There would be fewer of them in that case.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee is offending the President by his activity in endeavoring to protect American citizens. But at the same time he is making himself millions of friends among the American people.

Some of our contemporaries are worrying over whether Foraker or Hanna will be "senior Senator" for Ohio. The point is a trivial one, but the fact is, the one first elected holds the seniority.

Mr. Bryan is to stump Ohio in the interests of John R. McLean's Senatorial boom. Mr. Bryan stumped Ohio last fall and history records the result.

There are 91,000 offices still outside the civil service rules, but 67,000 of them are fourth-class postoffices.

THE CRETAN QUESTION SETTLED.

The ultimatum of the Great Powers of Europe has been delivered to Greece, Russia acting as their mouthpiece. This of itself is significant. It means that Russia has the greatest interest in the matter; and it also is notice to the world that Russia is not secretly upholding the Hellenic kingdom in its attempt to take possession of Crete. It is a peremptory demand that Greece shall withdraw her troops and fleet from Crete within three days.

The ultimatum was conveyed to the Greek government by the Russian minister at Athens, and he made a statement in accord with the declarations of M. Hanotaux, the minister of foreign affairs, to the French assembly. This declaration is that Russia is not acting from any regard for Turkish interests, but insists on the evacuation of Crete and the abandonment of all further efforts by Greece for the annexation of that island, simply to prevent the rebellion of the Porte's Christian subjects from extending to other parts of the Ottoman empire.

Peace is to be restored in Crete—must be restored, the Russian minister says; but it will be done by the Powers themselves, they having, it is expressly declared, the authority and sanction of the sultan. Greece is told that she has "violated international law," and has, therefore, no valid excuse for occupying any portion of Crete.

The Christian population of Crete will not be allowed to become the victims of the revenge of Turkey or of the frantic Mussulman population. Crete will be granted autonomy, with government officials of her own choosing, but under the suzerainty of Turkey. This solution of the Cretan problem is also announced authenitatively, by Lord Salisbury, in an explicit statement to the English House of Lords. He said the Powers will occupy Crete to pacify it, and their termination of this occupancy would be when all arrangements for Cretan autonomy were perfected.

This probably settles the Cretan question. Greece can not resist the united demand of the Powers; she can not go to war with five nations who have armies aggregating as much as her entire population. The Christians in Crete will be protected; and the solution of the vexed "Eastern question" has been again postponed.

CANTON'S TASK ENDED.

For nine months the little city of Canton has been overrun with people from every state in the Union. It is estimated that since the St. Louis convention last June, more than a million strangers have visited Canton and passed under the big white arch and up the hill to the modest frame house where lived Major William McKinley.

No candidate for President ever received at his own home so many of his fellow citizens. Almost every day during the long campaign delegations, often numbering thousands, were pulled into Canton, visited the McKinley home, heard the major speak, and then spent the time looking about the town until the train was ready to pull out.

During all these months Canton has performed well her part. The citizens, regardless of party, banded together to care for the thousands. It was a great political demonstration six days in the week, and lasting for months. Canton is not a large city, and it was no small matter to care for so many guests. But the good people of Canton were proud of their leading citizen, and gladly did all in their power for comfort of those who came to pay their respects.

But now all this is over. This evening Major McKinley leaves his old home a private citizen, to become, within three days, the head of this great nation. Canton gives him to the country, and she does it gladly and proudly. The little city will lapse into former quiet, but she has the pleasure of knowing that for almost a year she was the most important point on the political map.

AFTER THE TRUSTS.

Under the direction of ex-Attorney-General Miller, the Indiana legislature is about to enact a law which it is believed will give the trusts operating in that state a severe blow. The line of legislation agreed upon, and which meets the approval of Governor Mount, specifies that within thirty days after the passage of the act all trusts must file with the secretary of state a repudiation of their agreement or surrender their charter.

The act will define a trust as being any form of an agreement which has for its object the restriction of competition limiting the output of products or enhancing prices. The penalty of such an agreement is a heavy fine and imprisonment and the annulling of the company's charter. The law will be made to apply to all agreements operative in the state, even if entered into outside of the state.

Both branches of the legislature have agreed upon an act along this line. The legislature has spent most of its time since it convened in discussing a remedy for such abuses, and the fact that so eminent a lawyer as Mr. Miller is behind the movement, leads the country to expect some good results.

MRS. GOUGAR LOSES.

Mrs. Helen Gougar took a case to the Supreme court of the state of Indiana to test the right of herself and other women to vote in that state. That tribunal has just rendered a decision adverse to her claim.

The first point in the decision is that the state constitution limits the ballot to males; second, that this not in conflict with the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the national constitution, as they do not inhibit an abridgment of the right to vote on account of sex.

The third point is really the most important. It is, that the right of voting exists for the benefit of the state itself, not for that of the individual. Therefore, it is not a natural right, but a civil one, to be exercised only by those to whom it is expressly granted by positive law.

The decision thus puts a quietus upon the wild theories of the extremists, of whom Mrs. Gougar is one of the most notorious. Such women as she are really an obstruction to woman suffrage, as they show their own unfitness to be intrusted with the ballot.

For the present fiscal year, the exports of American oats will foot up fully 30,000,000 bushels, as against only a million bushels in 1890. The way is opening for very general prosperity among the American farmers.

Representative Gibson, of Tennessee, voices popular sentiment in suggesting a release of every American citizen imprisoned in Cuba and the bombardment of Spanish forts in case of refusal.

There will be two Mc's at the McKinley Cabinet table. Is this the result of the Kailyard school of literature?

AMERICANS WELL FED.

Buckle, the noted author of the History of Civilization, held that nations are differentiated by their food. Progress, either individual or national, is impossible unless the people are well fed. The arts have never flourished except in nations whose individuals are well nourished. Civilization centers among nations which have meat-eating populations. Shakespeare, that wondrous man whose knowledge seemed to touch humanity at all points, appears to have realized this philosophic dictum; for he makes the "lean and hungry" Cassius ask, "Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed that he hath grown so great?"

Bringing this line of thought to bear upon ourselves, we find that the people of the United States are better provided for, in the matter of food abundance, than those of any other nation in the world. Herewith is given a table showing the average annual food consumption per inhabitant among the leading countries of Europe, as compared with the United States.

	Grain. Bushels.	Meat. Pounds.
France	24.02	81.88
Germany	23.71	84.51
Belgium	22.84	57.10
Great Britain	20.02	119.10
Russia	17.97	54.05
Spain	17.68	25.04
Austria	15.57	56.03
Sweden and Norway	12.05	51.10
Italy	9.62	20.80
Europe	17.66	57.50
United States	40.66	120.00

As it is a truism of history that no ill-fed nation has ever been great, it follows that, in the matter of food consumption the American people are well provided with a physical basis for greatness as a nation, and for intellectual superiority among its individual people. Our per capita consumption of meat and grain is considerably more than twice the average per capita of all Europe. Each American averages twice as much grain consumed per year, and a little more meat, than the average Englishman; and the latter stands at the head of all European consumers.

But abundant food is but the foundation—and a necessary one—for greatness. We must have that, if we expect to rear a magnificent superstructure. And the latter can not be reared—the nation can not reach intellectual and moral greatness—without bringing the brain, the intellect, into active operation. Education is the means whereby the superstructure must be reared; food gives the physical foundation.

BRIGHAM YOUNG'S STATUE.

The Mormon influence in the Utah legislature is endeavoring to have a statue of Brigham Young, the Mormon leader and polygamist, placed in statuary hall of the capitol at Washington, and their purpose has stirred up considerable feeling, not only in Congress, but all over the country. It is felt that it would be a disgrace to the nation to thus honor he memory of a man who was anything but a true American, and whose religion was the cloak for his own selfish schemes and personal ambitions.

A resolution has been introduced in the House by Representative Barrett, which provides that statues intended for positions in Statuary Hall must be accepted by Congress before being placed in position. Under the present arrangement, they are placed in position first, and accepted afterwards. The only exception to this rule is in the case of the statue of Pere Marquette, which was placed in position a year ago, and has not yet been accepted by the House. The resolution for its acceptance passed the Senate, and is now pending before the House committee on library, but is scarcely expected to get action in the present Congress.

Under the provisions of the present law, any state may send to the capitol two statues of men who were its citizens and who were distinguished for military or civic service; and it is the duty of the architect of the capitol to have them placed in position, where they must remain until they are ordered out by act of Congress. This would make it practicable for the citizens of Utah, if they choose, to send a statue of Brigham Young, and cause it to be placed in Statuary Hall, where it would remain until some adverse legislation had ordered its removal.

The Barrett resolution should pass. The law, as it now stands, is defective. The consent of Congress should first be obtained, before a statue is allowed to be placed. Had the law provided for this, the row over the statue of Marquette would have been avoided; and if the statue of the Mormon hierophant be placed there, another dispute of the same character will follow, the end of which will be the removal of the statue; for the people of the United States will not tolerate its presence in the capitol of the nation.

HANNA AND HARMONY.

If anything was wanting to take away from Ohio Democrats the last ray of hope for success at the polls this year, Governor Bushnell contributed it by making public his intention of appointing Mark Hanna to the Senate to succeed John Sherman.

The Blade does not believe for a moment that if the appointee were any other good Republican, that the success of the party would be endangered. There has been no such factional dissensions as have been heralded by the Democratic press. Mr. Hanna's appointment will, however, thoroughly and completely throw the Democrats into a hopeless muddle from which they will be unable to extricate themselves. Already the action of Governor Bushnell is bearing fruit, and Paul Sorg has announced that he will not be a candidate for governor. The indications are that any Democrat who wants the empty honor can have it. John McLean may keep up his candidacy for United States Senator, but John does not live in Ohio, and is not supposed to know the situation here.

Ohio Republicans were never in better condition for a state campaign. There is no friction anywhere along the line. The state convention, which will, without doubt, be held in Toledo, will be a love feast, and the campaign will result in one of the greatest victories ever recorded in the political history of the state.

If Democrats continue to talk about Republican dissensions, every voter in the state will know they are lying, and are simply trying to cover up the chasms in their own ranks.

With an Ohio president, an Ohio secretary of state and two Ohio senators, the Buckeye state will see that the new administration is started right.

Quite a number of gentlemen who desired Cabinet positions will have to be satisfied with the Secretaryship of the Exterior.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Every now and then some overenthusiastic Republican worker bobs up with the assertion that he believes President McKinley will undo some of the work, at least, of his predecessor in putting official position into the classified list. At the state convention of the Ohio Republican League, the committee on resolutions came within a vote or so of reporting a resolution calling on the President-elect to do this.

We do not believe that Major McKinley will do anything of the sort. In saying this, we judge from his record, from the platform on which he was elected, and from his letter of acceptance.

On the floor of the House of Representatives, a half dozen years ago, William McKinley declared that civil service reform has come to stay. "We may just as well understand and accept it now," he added.

In June of last year William McKinley was nominated by the Republican national convention for the Presidency, upon a platform which declares that "the civil service law was placed upon the statute book by the Republican party, which has always sustained it, and we renew our repeated declarations that it shall be thoroughly and honestly enforced and extended wherever practicable." That stands as the creed of the party, and the President-elect is in honor bound to carry it out in good faith.

In his letter of acceptance seven months ago, Mr. McKinley wrote the following regarding the above plank in the platform:

> The pledge of the Republican national convention that our civil service service laws "shall be sustained and thoroughly and honestly enforced, and extended wherever practicable," is in keeping with the position of the party for the last twenty-four years, and will be faithfully observed. Our opponents decry these reforms. They appear willing to abandon all the advantages gained, after so many years' agitation and effort. They encourage a return to methods of party favoritism which both parties have often denounced, that experience has condemned, and that the people have repeatedly disapproved. The Republican party earnestly opposes this reactionary and entirely unjustifiable policy. It will take no backward step upon this question. It will seek to improve, but never degrade, the public service.

We do not believe that Major McKinley will do anything but carry out that pledge. We know him to be a man with a high sense of honor, and that he feels deeply his responsibility to the people who chose him for their chief magistrate. He is not the kind of man to resort to a quibble, nor to avail himself of a gauzy excuse for going back upon his party's solemn pledge.

The only plea that is advanced by those who desire the bars thrown down so as to make more places for spoilsmen, is that "Cleveland has filled up these positions with Democrats, and then protected them by putting their positions in the classified list." They ask that McKinley shall fill them with Republicans. It is obvious that to do this would be to invite the next Democratic President to do the same thing—and we may have a Democratic President four years from now. The only way to promote civil service reform is to maintain it where it now exists, and carry out the party pledge to extend it.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

From all the business centers the cheering tidings come of an improvement in business. The end of the ill-fated Cleveland administration has come, and every business interest is glad. The Wilson bill still throws its shadow over the land, but it is understood that its term of life will end, in all probability, with the close of the fiscal year on June 30 next—only four months in the future. Then this industry-destroying, deficit-producing statute will be wiped off, and in its place we shall have a law which will restore the conditions on which prosperity is again possible.

Money is plenty in the financial centers, and this is reflected in the easy interest rates prevailing. Call loans in New York closed Saturday at 1½@1¾ per cent. Time money is offered liberally in amount, with fair demand. Rates 2 per cent. for thirty to sixty days, 2½ for ninety days, 3 for four to six months.

Despite the abuse of which it is constantly the target, the New York Stock Exchange has, during the past week, shown itself the index of commercial sentiment, as every business man knows it to be. The heated utterances on the Cuban question in Congress, the uncertainty regarding the Cretan situation in Europe, would, under other conditions, have had a marked effect in depressing the prices of stocks; but with the strong feeling of confidence in commercial circles all over the United States, stocks have maintained prices, and the Saturday close was at a higher level than the week's opening. "Things are picking up," and the stock brokers realize it. Then, too, inauguration day has always been the index of stiffening prices, and the Stock Exchange views the situation in general in a very favorable light.

Henry Clews, in his circular of Saturday, declares that the factors now in evidence

present no features that should disturb the growth of confidence which has so distinctly set in within the last few weeks. The improvement in general business is well sustained in all the markets, and the tone is becoming steadily more hopeful. The railroads are now showing an increase of earnings, and especially from merchandise and passenger traffic, which is evidence of recovery in trade at large. The position of the Hocking Valley railroad has lately had a somewhat depressing effect upon stocks; but the announcement on Thursday of the appointment of a receiver for the company caused a rise of 1½ to 5 per cent. Its securities which had a good effect upon the general market. To my view, the general position of the stock market is sound and promising, and seems to afford a safe basis for buying for compensating profits. The opportunity for buying is the more promising from the fact that the country takes a new start under new party leadership and under policies which have been associated with eras of the largest progress enjoyed in the history of the country.

The experiments made by the Post-office Department with free mail delivery in country districts shows that it is not only convenient, but practicable; yet it is so expensive that the department can not enter upon the work until the government has more money at its command than now. The plan of having the persons benefited pay the carrier should be considered. It is perfectly feasible.

The New York court of appeals has just decided that a flirtation, however desperate, shall not constitute grounds for a lawsuit, and a claim for damaged affections must be based upon something more tangible. Hence in that state a suit for breach of promise cannot be brought unless an offer of marriage can be proved. This is bad news for flirting women.

Speaker Reed is declared to be unpopular with his fellow-Representatives because he is using the power of his office to stop bills or expending money for unnecessary purposes. This may make him unpopular with log-rolling Congressmen, but it has the opposite effect with the people.

MR. BRIGHAM'S APPOINTMENT.

The Blade takes pleasure in now making the announcement, which is on reliable and official authority, that Col. Joseph H. Brigham, of Delta, has been offered and has accepted the position of assistant secretary of agriculture under the McKinley administration.

The friends of Mr. Brigham in every state in the Union petitioned for his appointment to the first place in this department. For once the fact that a man was from Ohio operated against the applicant. The disposition of other cabinet portfolios made it necessary for that of secretary of agriculture to go to another state.

Mr. Brigham's selection as assistant secretary will meet with universal approval. No man in the country is so well and so favorably known by the farmers as is Col. Brigham. For several years he has been at the head of the National Grange and in the interests of that great organization he has traveled over the whole country, making firm friends of all with whom he came in contact. The farmers have ever found him loyal to their interests and they have an unshaken confidence in his ability and honesty of purpose. They will feel that they have a personal friend in the great department of government in which they are most concerned.

Northwestern Ohio is proud to contribute so prominent an official to the new administration. Colonel Brigham is a man of character, of unquestioned honesty and of far more than ordinary ability. Always a loyal Republican he has in every campaign given his time and talent to the defense of Republican principle, and is one of the most effective speakers in Ohio.

The new administration is to be congratulated on the selection of Colonel Brigham for so important a place.

An emissary of the North American Transportation and Trading company is on his way to Washington to ask that troops be sent to the Alaskan gold fields to protect life and property from the desperate characters who are gathering there. The gold fields have attracted a swarm of such individuals from all over the Pacific coast and the islands, as is always the case.

One of the surest signs of returning sanity among the people is the fact that Coxey has repeatedly failed lately in obtaining any following for his new splurges. He tried to get up a parade of the unemployed in St. Louis on Washington's birthday, but they sensibly refused, on the ground that they did not want to parade their misfortunes in public.

Now that the congress of mothers was a great success, what's the matter with one of mothers-in-law?

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The Great Powers have come to an agreement on the Cretan question, on the following basis: That the establishment of administrative autonomy in Crete is necessary to the termination of international occupation of that island; that subject to such system of administrative autonomy, Crete is to remain a portion of the Turkish empire; that the governments of Turkey and Greece ought to be informed of this resolution, and that if either Turkey or Greece should persist in a refusal when required to withdraw her naval and military forces from the island, the powers shall impose their decision by force.

There is one important obstacle to the success of this plan of the powers, and that is the attitude of the Greek people, which has compelled the government to present a bold and firm front to the powers. Whatever may be the outcome of the present situation, the position of the Greeks has been one of a nature to compel the admiration of the world. As for the settlement proposed by the powers, there can be no doubt that it is a mere makeshift which contains the germs of future trouble that can only be averted for a short while longer.

King George can not retreat from his position if he were so inclined, which he is not. His throne is at stake, and any wavering on his part in the present crisis would endanger his reign in Greece. He expresses his profound astonishment that the powers of Europe would permit the Turk to occupy Crete under the guise of a military base, and to carry out such determination point their guns upon Christians on that island who are struggling for life and liberty. It is this feature of the whole trouble that turns the power of the powers into the rope of sand. Christians of other nations do not sympathize with this decree of their sovereigns and their rulers, and public sentiment even in European countries, outside of Russia, is a strong factor in government.

Reports were current in Paris and elsewhere in Europe on Saturday that if the powers insist upon the Greek troops evacuating the island of Crete, King George will abdicate in favor of Crown Prince Constantine, the duke of Sparta, whose wife, the Princess Sophia, is a sister of Emperor William of Germany.

The first fruits of the decision of the Powers on the Cretan insurrection appear in the insolence and fury of the Moslems on the island, who believe that all Europe is back of them in their assults upon the Christians. According to the latest despatches, some 8,000 Moslem fighting men, besides the Turkish soldiers, were parading the streets in Canea, all heavily armed, and demanding the blood of the Christian dogs who have dared to question the right of the Turks to tyrannize over them. Meanwhile, the popular indignation in Athens, at the recreancy of the powers, inspired by Russia, shows no signs of abatement, and if the Grecian people had their way they would single-handed fight all Europe. Such is the spirit of the Hellenic people. It is evident that the concord of the powers is a vain and useless application of brute force, sufficient, perhaps, for a momentary patch-up, but insufficient as the assurance of the future. No permanent settlement of the question is possible, which does not include Grecian nationality, and the driving of the sultan into Asia where he belongs.

The Salisbury ministry and the Meline ministry are taking grave chances. The people have a voice in England, and they have a voice in France. Their sympathies go to the merits of the question, and they have no patience with the contemptible trimming of diplomats. They are growing tired of the cherished Ottoman rule of blood. They have seen their governments take a stand in the Cretan affair which has degraded them in the eyes of the world. It is questionable whether they will permit them to maintain it.

Should the powers carry out their present programme, however, and Crete a Turkish tributary, under an Austrian governor, after its independence is a reality and its annexation to Greece a fact, it will be one of the most odious political crimes that have disgraced Europe since Poland was robbed of nationality and afterward delivered over to Russia to be maltreated and oppressed. It would form a sad close for the nineteenth century.

The lower house of Congress on Friday, after an interesting debate, by a practically unanimous vote—270 to 3—passed the bill providing for a monetary conference. Mr. Dingley, the leader of the Republican forces, offered two weighty reasons for supporting the measure. It was framed in response to an unqualified declaration of the Republican national convention of last year. On this point Mr. Dingley said:

> "The Republican party at St. Louis declared against the free coinage of silver by the independent action of this country, because they believed, as I believe, and as every scientific bimetallist in the world outside of politics believes, that such independent free coinage of silver, at 16 to 1, is nothing in the world but silver monometallism. But the party said, at the same time, that they would promote, so far as in their power, an international agreement for the free coinage of silver, under circumstances which should make every dollar in silver as good as every dollar in gold; and that pledge it is our duty to-day by the passage of this bill to endeavor to respond to."

In other words, Mr. Dingley believes that it is good policy and sound morals for a party to put the creed of its platform into its deed. If the Republican party should squarely repudiate the resolution of the St. Louis platform favoring a monetary conference, the silver people would be warranted in believing that the refusal to provide for the conference was due to the apprehension that its findings would not be agreeable to the champions of the gold standard.

The full text of the treaty for the determination of the Alaskan boundary, which was signed about a month ago, was made public last week. Under the treaty each government is to appoint one commissioner, with whom may be associated such surveyors, astronomers and other assistants as each government may elect. The commissioners will, at as early a period as practicable, proceed to trace and mark under their joint direction and by joint operations in the field so much of the 141st meridian of west longitude as is necessary to be defined for the purpose of determining the exact limits of the territory ceded to the United States by the treaty between the United States and Russia of March 30, 1867. Inasmuch as the summit of Mount St. Elias, although not ascertained to lie in fact upon said 141st meridian, is so nearly coincident therewith that it may conveniently be taken as a visible landmark whereby the initial part of said meridian shall be established, it is agreed that the commissioners, should they conclude that it is advisable so to do, may deflect the most southerly portion of that line so as to make the range with the summit of Mount St. Elias, such deflection not to extend more than twenty geographical miles nothwardly from the initial point. The commissioners are to have the use of data relating to determinations already made and to decide which of the results of the determinations shall be adopted by them.

Once again the Cuban question has come to the front as a topic of more or less exciting interest. The death in prison, alleged to have been by violence, of Dr. Ruiz, asserted to be an American citizen, and the imprisonment of others, together with rumors of the threatened resignation of the consul-general at Havana, created an amount of excitement which manifested itself in the introduction of a variety of resolutions, one of which reported in the Senate demanded the immediate release of Julio Sanguilly, who was held in custody at Havana. Saturday the news came that a decree pardoning Sanguilly had been signed at Madrid. No topic brought up in the Senate for a long time has called forth such exciting talk in that body, but the action of the Spanish government has rendered the passing of the resolution unnecessary.

Quite unexpectedly an obstacle to the prompt ratification of the Venezuelan arbitration treaty has come to light in a provision of the Venezuelan constitution necessitating the use of the Spanish language in documents for consideration of the Congress. When the convention was concluded early this month, both the copies signed by the plenipotentiaries were in the English language, this being deemed advisable, as the proceedings of the tribunal would be conducted in that tongue. This departure from the customary rule of having treaties in the language of the countries participating has led to a delay that will, in all probability, postpone the exchange of ratifications for some time, though it was thought every precaution had been taken to secure the approval of the Venezuelan Congress to the agreement before March 4. A translation, speedily but carefully prepared, has been sent to England for the approval of the British Premier, and provision has been made for cabling corrections to Washington and Caracas in case any should be made. All this, however, will necessarily involve delay, and it is not regarded as likely that the Venezuelan president will be able to lay the document before the congress of his country for at least a couple of weeks.

The investigation into the trusts in New York was brought to a close last week so suddenly that people in general were taken completely by surprise. Its last task was the investigation of the coal combination, and it got little satisfaction from its inquiry into this. It was developed that the companies found that the demand for coal was an element that they had to reckon within the making of allotments under the agreement of 1896, and that they could not, in all cases, live up to their agreement. President Thomas, of the Erie railroad, said that there had never been anybody with the ability to maintain any anthracite coal at any price. It was admitted that the selling agents of the companies had occasionally talked together about the prices they were going to charge for coal as other men in other vocations in life talk about what they are going to charge for their products. The roads, it was said, were losing money, and they endeavored to fix the price at what they thought was a fair value. There was not, however, any restriction of the product. The commission has secured an extension of time in which to present its report. Considering the results thus far obtained the wonder is that the investigation was ever ordered.

One of the most sensible banking measures which has been reported to Congress for some time is that authorizing national banks to issue circulating notes to the par value of their bonds on deposit in the treasury. This measure has had the support of financiers of the most conservative temper, and in particular has been energetically advocated by the present able comptroller of the currency. The bill would increase the circulation by substituting 100 per cent of circulation instead of 90 per cent on the bonds, as now allowed. This bill was brought to passage in the House last week, when it went through by a majority of 98.

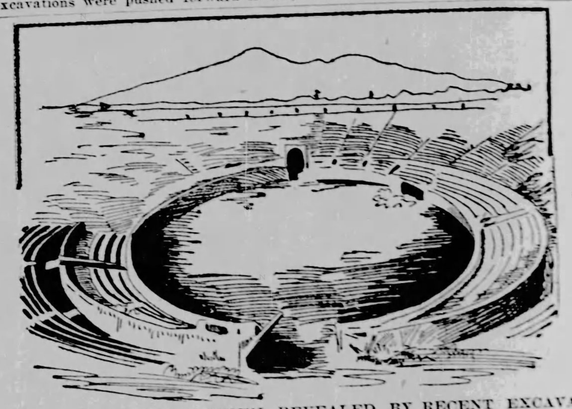
A body devoted to the object of maintaining the gold standard as the basis of the money system of the United States has come definitely into existence in the National Sound Money League, delegates to which met in New York last week. The new body is a non-partisan organization, and welcomes to its ranks all citizens who are convinced that the preservation of that standard is necessary in order to protect the honor and secure the prosperity of the country. In a constitution adopted at the conference the league declared that the Presidential election once more proved that proper appeals to the intelligence and conscience of the people are safe means of averting public evils, but it showed at the same time that dangerous social and political heresies had gained the popular ear to a surprising extent. The league will deem it, therefore, its final and most important duty to resume and continue energetically by every legitimate agency the work of enlightening the public mind upon the subject of sound money in all its bearings which was so vigorously and effectively carried out during the recent momentous campaign. To this end the league, in co-operation with other bodies holding the same views, will seek to bring about such modifications of existing and such enactment of new laws as shall tend to carry out the objects here stated. It will endeavor also to accomplish its objects through an organization extending over all states. It expects to secure the co-operation of existing state and local societies, and to form new ones wherever needed and practical. All citizens of the United States in sympathy with the objects of the league are eligible as members. An energetic propaganda to counteract the efforts of the silverites may therefore be looked for.

Kalamazoo, Mich., is famous for celery. See Then Blade's offer on page 2.

DIGGING OUT POMPEII.

Gradually the Famous Buried City is Being Laid Bare—About Seven Hundred Bodies Have Been Discovered So Far.

It is now almost a century and a half since a laborer on the Campagna, while sinking a well, came upon some fragments of old sculpture and painted tiles. Forty years previously a peasant of Resina had in a similar way made the first discoveries which led to the excavation of the buried city of Herculaneum. Hopes were aroused that in the favorite summer resort of the wealthy Romans, even greater art treasures might be found under the cinders and pumice stone which for seventeen centuries had hidden them from sight and saved them from decay. Works were undertaken with this view, and in a few years a portion of the amphitheater was cleared. The work, however was intermittent, and pursued in a wholly haphazard fashion under the Bourbons, and it was not until the more energetic Murat found himself temporarily installed as King of Naples that the excavations were pushed forward in an intelligent spirit. Successive eruptions of Vesuvius also impeded the work, and although none ever directly threatened to bury Pompeii again, they added considerably to the trouble of clearing the ground. As late as 1823 Miss Berry—Horace Walpole's friend—records in her journal: "We set out, a large party, for Pompeii. The drive of fourteen miles is very disagreeable, notwithstanding the view of the bay and the mountains around. * * * The cinders and lava of the eruptions last October (1822) have scarcely yet been swept to each side of the streets, but are left on the road. Outside Pompeii it is half way up the horses' legs." No such impediments now await the traveler, and a very prosaic and distinctly dilatory train deposits him at an unpretentious and not very cleanly railway station.



AMPHITHEATER IN POMPEII, REVEALED BY RECENT EXCAVATIONS.

Except to the high classical and ultra-enthusiastic eye, the first impressions of Pompeii are disappointing. Within the last years the efforts of the ministry of fine arts have been directed to clear away the heaps of cinders which obstructed the general view of the original city. The object has now been partially—very partially—attained, and the Forum, which was the central feature of the place, as the Strada dei Sepolcri was the principal suburb, can now be realized in their mutual relations. The first place of interest which is passed is the so-called Basilica, supposed to have been used as a law court, but distinct from the tribunals, which were at the further side of the Forum, of which the construction was not completed when the city was covered up. The most striking feature of this open space are the ruins of the temple of Jupiter. A main street of Pompeii leading from the station is that known as the Strada dell' Abondanza, at the corner of which is to be seen the chalcidium, or exchange, one of the most beautiful buildings as yet revealed, its central hall having been surrounded by columns of Parian marble.

In the street of tombs, however, we are upon more solid ground, for not a few of the monuments bear the names and even the busts of those to whose memory they were erected. At the extreme end of the strada is the so-called Villa of Diomede, which has attractions alike for the lover of fact and of fiction, for here were found the bodies of 17 women and children, who had sought refuge under the portico, but were apparently suffocated.

The amphitheater is even farther away from the center of the city than the Sepolcri, and it is on this point that recent excavations have been chiefly directed.

SOME LATE NEW THINGS.

To turn the leaves of sheet music a newly patented device has a series of springs fitted with clamps to be attached to each sheet, the levers being released in turn by pressing a button at the bottom of the frame, when they fly over to the opposite side of the book and turn the page.

To strengthen the forks of a bicycle an oscillating spring plug is attached to the under side of the bottom brace near the head, a steel wire yoke attached to the forks sliding through a slot or groove in the plug as the front wheel turns from one side to the other to steer the wheel.

A new druggists' graduated measuring glass is hung in a standard by two ears placed on opposite sides of the glass, so that the glass will always remain level whether held in the hand or resting on a flat surface, thus insuring an accurate measurement of the fluids poured into the glass.

For the cleaning of tobacco pipes a recently patented device consists of a pump with a wire-handled plunger in one end, the other end being fitted to be attached to the pipe bowl by means of a rubber base and clamp, when the cleaning fluid can be forced into the bowl and through the pipe stem.

One of the latest devices for the display of wall paper or fabrics is composed of a number of rollers mounted in a frame on which the rolls of paper are fastened, one set of rollers drawing the paper perpendicularly and the other horizontally, so that any combination of designs in the paper and border can be shown.

A device for dipping chocolates just invented consists of a skeleton cup with arms for holding the core, a retainer formed as a socket beneath but out of contact with the core, adapted to receive a mass of the coating material beneath and adjacent to the core, so that when the dipper is reversed and the core drops out on a plate or tin the coating material falls over it from the retaining arms.

A new vegetable slicer has an automatic hopper mounted to slide on a table over an opening in the table provided with knives, pivoted to permit of angular adjustment, the vegetables being placed in the hopper and held down by a spring cover while the hopper is pushed back and forth over the knives.

To prevent vermin from getting on young fruit trees a new device has two lateral parts, which, being brought together, form a pipe, bell shaped at the lower end and of a smaller diameter above, shouldered at the upper end to receive a lid, the whole being made of clay burned and glazed to withstand the weather.

A newly patented voting machine has the party ballots pasted on a board in front over a series of registering levers, the backs of the levers being connected to show the total number of votes cast, but the vote for each candidate is not indicated until the machine is opened at the close of the election, fraud being prevented by watching the total vote which is always in sight at the back of the machine.

A Chicago woman has invented a new device to hold clothes on a bed, consisting of a frame adapted to be attached to the side rail of the bed and provided with a crossbar at its upper end raised above the side rail in combination with a swinging supplemental frame, adapted to be swung over and down on the crossbar and held in place by a retaining device being made of wire, thus making it light.

For persons who have writing to do and cannot afford to buy a desk, a useful article is the chair desk, which has shelves arranged below the seat, and a flap secured to the back of the chair which can be swung around in front of the person using the chair and adjusted to a convenient height for use as a writing table.

To sharpen the knife blades of lawn mowers while they are in use a roller is set in a frame so as to touch the edge of each knife as it revolves, the surface of the roller being composed of a grinding powder, the frame being hinged to the frame of the mower to permit of its being thrown back from the knives when they are sharpened.

The use of oil on stormy seas to make them smooth is made easy by means of a new device, consisting of a buoy, an oil reservoir and two cylinders, one containing a set of springs and a piston rod for forcing the oil from the other cylinder as it flows in from the reservoir, the whole being attached to a yard-arm of the vessel or fastened by a cable, through which the electric current passes to operate it.

One of the latest devices for running a sewing machine or other light machinery is a series of gear wheels in a frame, a spring being coiled on the shaft of the largest wheel, the winding being done by means of a lever extending in front of the machine, on the end of which is a seat for the operator, the action of sitting down winding the spring, the mechanism being controlled by a brake on the fly wheel.

The stoppage of trolley cars by hose lines at fires is the cause of a great deal of trouble to the street car companies, which in the use of hose bridges to hold the hose above the trolley wire does not entirely obviate, because of the labor of raising a hose pipe to such a height. A very

Publishers' Column.

WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES.

Some months ago, after supplying our readers several thousand good watches at wholesale prices, we discontinued the offer. For a few weeks we shall offer the following small list much below our former prices, owing to reduction of certain grades by the manufacturer. A couple will be recognized as standard watches of our former list. The others are good grades at reduced prices.

OFFER NO. S.—BLADE SPECIAL.

Open Face or Hunting Case, Waltham or Elgin Works—Be Sure to Name Your Choice When You Order.

A $200 solid gold watch cannot be bought for $20, but the Weekly Blade offers a watch under the above number which has all the appearances and most of the good qualities of a $200 watch. Time and money have been spent in bringing this particular watch to perfection. The movement (or works) contains 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made. Remember, we mean that the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb piece, joint plugs, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. The works are especially recommended where the most accurate time is required. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, county committeemen, and all others who wish a really first-class article. As a present it cannot be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will even make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and it is especially recommended to school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equalled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail to any of our subscribers for $20.

No. 333.

No. 333 is one of the finest gentlemen's watches we have ever offered. The movements, either Waltham or Elgin, are full jeweled, and are guaranteed perfect timekeepers. The case is of the finest gold-filled, and guaranteed to wear the same as solid gold for 15 years. The price of this watch in open face is $13.50, and in hunting case, $16.50.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $20.00.

No. 15.—The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials, carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed down from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14k. United States assay, handsomely engraved. This watch is a stem winder and setter and hunting case. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $20.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $15.00.

No. 16.—The works of No. 16 are the same as No. 15, but the case is gold filled, 14k., guaranteed to wear just like solid gold for 20 years. The joints, plugs and parts exposed to unusual wear are solid gold. It is hunting case, and is handsomely engraved. Sent by registered mail, delivery guaranteed, for $15.

Gentlemen's Watches.

No. 200.—Solid gold 40 dwt. hunting case with Elgin or Waltham works, 18 size, 14 karat, and guaranteed timekeeper, sent by registered mail to any part of the United States for $33.50.

No. 201.—Gold filled Elgin or Waltham watch, 18 size, open face case, guaranteed for 15 years. The movement or works contain seven jewels. This watch will be sent to any subscriber of The Blade in perfect order, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

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Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge).
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Hillow Massacre, Tenn.
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We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

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1 dozen table knives	2.25
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"ON MAUMEE."

The following is the original of the poem from which Editor White, of Emporia, Kan., quoted in his speech at Zanesville, February 12, in which he made it run:

"O, potatoes, they grow small out in Kansas;
And they eat them tops and all, out in Kansas."

It was first published in the Maumee City Express, June 24, 1837.

On Maumee, on Maumee,
Potatoes they grow small;
They roast them in the fire,
And eat them—tops and all.

There's bass and mullet, too;
They run from spring till fall;
They take them by the tail,
And down them—scales and all.

There's 'possum, coon and fox;
So poor they scarce can crawl;
They catch them in a trap,
And eat them—fur and all.

There's crows upon the bank,
So lean they never squall;
They shoot them through the eye,
And take them—down and all.

The soil is rich and black;
The corn it grows quite tall;
They take it from the field,
And eat it—cobs and all.

On New Year's holiday
The chaps they have a ball;
'Tis whisky in a gourd;
They drink it—gourd and all.

The girls are plump and fair;
The babes know how to bawl;
The boys they always court
The girl, dad, mam and all.

On Maumee, on Maumee,
'Tis ague in the fall;
The fit will shake them so
It rocks the house and all.

There's a funeral every day,
Without a hearse or pall;
They tuck them in the ground
With breeches, coat and all.

FACTS ABOUT STEEL.

What It Is, How It Is Made and What It Will Do.

The term steel signifies iron containing a small percentage of carbon, which may vary from less than 1 to 15 per cent, says the Manufacturer.

In modern times steel signifies iron that has an infinitesimal amount of carbon in it, provided it is produced by the open hearth or Bessemer process.

Meteoric iron is a close representative of nickel steel and was used by the ancients.

The majority of steel in the early times was obtained from wrought iron.

Wrought iron is produced from cast iron melted in contact with iron cinder and iron ore, and when cooled and worked again heated in closed vessels with shavings of horn and similar material.

The most important invention in connection with the production of steel was that of Sir Henry Bessemer, and termed the Bessemer process.

The Bessemer process dates back to the fifties. The essence of this invention was the production of steel from pig iron by the use of an air blast. A blast of air is forced through the molten cast iron so that the carbon and silicon contained in it are burned out, they forming the fuel. The converter in which the metal is treated by the Bessemer process is an egg-shaped vessel having a capacity of from several tons, which is turned on its side to receive the charge and afterwards brought into an upright position. Its bottom is full of holes, through which the air blast is forced.

Steel under the intense heat of a converter is as liquid as water.

In 1878 another great advance was made in the art by Sidney Gilchrist Thomas, by which ordinary grades of iron ore were rendered available for steel making. The Thomas invention related to the addition of a quantity of lime to the charge and the lining of the converter with special bricks formed of lime, which absorbed the phosphorus in the cast iron.

The slag obtained by the Thomas process is so rich in phosphorus it is employed as a fertilizer.

The Thomas improvement is the greatest yet made on the Bessemer process.

Following the Thomas discovery the next important improvement in the process was that made by William Siemens in 1882, which consisted in burning the fuel so as to produce a gas which was burned in a peculiar furnace, obtaining thereby high temperatures and great economy of heat.

The tenacity of good steel is very high, exceeding that of any other metal.

The fractured surface of steel generally presents a crystalline appearance uniform in strength.

Much carbon makes steel close grained and lustrous.

Natural steel is obtained by refining cast iron so as to deprive it of a sufficient portion of carbon to bring it to the malleable state.

Indian or Wootz steel is made by melting one pound of malleable iron in a crucible with 10 per cent by weight of the wood and leaves of the plant "Cassia auriculata."

Mild steel contains from 2 to 5-10 per cent carbon. When more is present it is termed hard steel.

Steel in its hardest state is too brittle for most purposes, and the requisite strength and elasticity is obtained by tempering, which is performed by heating it to a certain color, dependent on the use to which it is to be put, and cooling quickly.

The tensile strength of steel ranges from 75,000 to 96,000 pounds. The average is about 86,000.

A hemp rope 16.5 inches in circumference would be the equivalent in strength of a steel rope 5 inches in circumference.

WHEN I GET TIME.

When I get time—
I know what I shall do:
I'll cut the leaves of all my books,
And read them through and through.

When I get time—
I'll write some letters then
That I have owed for weeks and weeks
To many, many men.

When I get time—
I'll pay those calls I owe,
And with those bills, those countless bills,
I will not be so slow.

When I get time—
I'll regulate my life
In such a way that I may get
Acquainted with my wife.

When I get time—
O glorious dream of bliss!
A month, a year, ten years from now—
But I can't finish this—
I have no time.

—Vogue.

MEN.

Every man should read the advertisement of the Von Mohl Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, on page 2.

It is one of the largest and wealthiest importing houses in the United States. Their businesss is confined exclusively to the importation and sale of foreign medicines and preparations of recognized merit.

The financial and mercantile character of this firm is unquestioned.

Irony of Fate.

Bobbie had been studying his dear, old grandfather's wrinkled face for a long time. "Well, Bob," said the old gentleman, "do you like my face?"

"Yes, grandpa," said Bobbie, "it's an awfully nice face. But why don't you have it ironed?"—Trifles.

Sons and fathers, read Thos. Slater's offer on page 4.

After.... Taking

a course of Ayer's Pills the system is set in good working order and a man begins to feel that life is worth living. He who has become the gradual prey of constipation, does not realize the friction under which he labors, until the burden is lifted from him. Then his mountains sink into molehills, his moroseness gives place to jollity, he is a happy man again. If life does not seem worth living to you, you may take a very different view of it after taking

Ayer's Cathartic Pills.

THE OFFICES.

LIST OF THE FAT THINGS AT THE PRESIDENT'S DISPOSAL.

Here is the Complete List of Appointments Open, Outside of Those Under Civil Service Rules.

President-elect McKinley will find seekers for office for every place at his disposal. The Blue Book has been studied carefully by hundreds of citizens anxious to serve their country, and though the civil service law has restricted to a great extent the number of places at his disposal, there remain many desirable billets, aside from the cabinet, whose composition has been practically complete for some time.

Of all the branches of the executive service none offers such attractions as the Department of State. The aegis of civil service reform protects very little of the foreign service, and from the stately ambassadorship, the coveted resting places of the wealthy and foremost of politicians, down through the long list of ministries and consulates general and consulates to the smallest commercial agency in some remote corner of the world, no place is without its attraction to some one.

The department itself is well protected, for in its whole organization only three desirable places are open to appointment by selection, the Attorney-General having held that the chief clerk and chiefs of divisions are subject to appointment under civil service rules. These three places are those of the assistant secretaries, with salaries of $4,500 and $3,500 attached, but, by a custom as fixed in its operation as law, one and perhaps two of these are filled by promotion from the best talent in the service and are rarely subject to change.

Embassies and Missions.

The spoils lie outside in the representation abroad. First in importance are the three embassies—Great Britain, France and Germany—with their salaries of $17,500 per annum; the Mexican mission, paying the same wage, and the Italian embassy, fixed at $12,000. Equal to the latter in salary, though slightly less in diplomatic standing, are the missions to Austro-Hungary, Brazil, China, Japan and Spain.

There are eight nice missions with salaries of $10,000 per annum, namely Argentine, Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala and Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador, Peru and Turkey. At $7,500 per annum are rated the missions to Denmark, Hawaii, Corea, the Netherlands, Paraguay and Uruguay, Portugal, Sweden and Norway, Switzerland and Venezuela, nine in all. One salary is $6,500, that of the minister to Greece and Servia. Seven places pay $5,000 per annum, Bolivia, San Domingo, Ecuador, Haiti, Persia, Siam and Egypt, where we are represented by an agent and consul-general in the same person.

Many of the embassies and ministers are supplied with secretaries, interpreters and attaches, with more or less attractive salaries. The best paid of these is the secretary of the Hawaiian mission, who receives $4,000 per annum. The others, thirty-five in number, have salaries attached all the way from $3,000 down to $500.

The Consular Service.

As to the consular service some doubt exists. By a rule made last September President Cleveland provided that all consulates with salaries and official fees running between $1,000 and $2,500, should be filled by only three methods—promotion or transfer, appointment of persons previously serving the State department well in some capacity, and lastly, by appointment after examination.

That was as far as he went in the application of civil service principles, and it remains to be seen whether or not the numerous incumbents in this class are now to be regarded as subject to eviction. Within the limits are 196 places; above the $2,500 class are 38 places, and below the $1,000 class are 71 places. There are 87 consulates general, many being lucrative posts, such as London, Paris, and Berlin. Owing to the fact that until very recently the consular officers were not required to make any returns of their unofficial fees, in many cases the most substantial source of revenue to them, no one except the incumbents can tell just how much an office of this kind pays.

Hereafter the department, through the workings of a new regulation, may secure such information and proceed in its policy of resolutely reducing the fees and equalising salaries. Meantime all is conjecture as to the revenue of the larger consulates and consulates general, but a departmental estimate places the figure at Paris and London at about $25,000 per annum in each case.

The fixed salaries of the more important consuls generally average about $5,000, with unofficial fees retained by the incumbent to an unknown amount.

Some of the most attractive of the consular places, from the point of revenue are London, Paris, Berlin, Liverpool, Birmingham, Tynstall, Sheffield, Palermo, Kanagawa, Osaka, Havana, Shanghai, Bordeaux, Lyons, Marseilles, Barmen, Chemnitz, Crefeld, Frankfort, Hamburg, Leipsic, Belfast, Vienna, Calcutta, Glasgow, Hong Kong, Huddersfield, Buenos Ayres, Prague, Trieste, Antwerp, Brussels, Ghent, Liege, Para, Rio, Santos, Valparaiso, Amoy, Canton, Tientsin, Colon, Barranguilla, Panama, Guayaquil, Cognac, Havre, Limoges, Roubaix, St. Etienne, Aix le Chapelle, Annaberg, Bremen, Breslau, Cologne, Dresden, Kehl, Mayence, Munich, Sonneberg, Stuttgart, Halifax, Kingston, Leeds, Melbourne, Montreal, Nottingham, Ottawa, Singapore, Southampton, Swansea, Sydney, Toronto, Victoria, Winnipeg, Yarmouth, Florence, Genoa, Leghorn, Messina, Milan, Naples, Rome, Nagaski, Mexico, Nogales, Nuevo Laredo, Paso del Norte, Vera Cruz, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Callao, St. Petersburg, Apia, Matanzas, Santiago de Cuba, Gothenberg, Stockholm, Basle, St. Gall, Zurich, Constantinople, Smyrna and Maracaibo.

Thin Pickings.

In the war and navy departments there are just two places open to candidates, aside from a couple of private secretaryships and a half dozen miserably paid laborers' places. These places are the assistant secretaryships, one in each department, paying $4,500 each.

Every other place, not only in the departments proper, but in their outside dependencies, in the navy yards, in river and harbor works, and at every point outside of the regular military and naval establishments, which, of course, are even more strongly fortified against attack, there is no opening for the office seeker.

In the Treasury.

The Treasury Department next offers the greatest inducements, salary and honor taken into consideration. These include: Three assistant secretaries at $4,5'00 each, six auditors at $4,000 each, six deputy auditors at $2,500 each, one treasurer at $6,000, and also an assistant treasurer, controller of treasury, assistant controller of treasury, register of the treasury, assistant register of treasury, controller of the currency, commissioner of internal revenue, general superintendent of live-saving service, commissioner of navigation, director of the mint, supervising surgeon general marine hospital, supervising inspector general of steam vessels, commissioner general of immigration, superintendent coast survey, private secretary to the Secretary of the Treasury, 250 laborers actually employed as such, from $240 to $600; 120 collectors of customs, at varying salaries, 43 surveyors of customs, 6 naval officers, 9 general appraisers of customs, 5 commissioners of immigration, 15 appraisers of customs, 18 assistant appraisers of customs, 4 examiners of drugs, 63 collectors of internal revenue, 9 assistant treasurers of the United States and 10 supervising inspectors of steam vessels.

Connected with United States mints there are four superintendents, five melters and refiners, three coiners, five assayers, one engraver.

In the United States assay office there are one superintendent, two assayers in charge, two assayers, one melter and refiner, one melter and one assayer and melter.

Department of Justice.

Connected with the Department of Justice there are 1 solicitor general, 6 assistant attorneys general, 1 solicitor of the treasury, 1 assistant solicitor of the treasury, 1 solicitor internal revenue, 14 territorial judges, 3 judges in the Indian territory, 5 judges court of private land claims, 75 United States attorneys, 75 United States marshals. There are also in the District of Columbia 2 judges of police court, 15 justices of the peace, about 450 notaries public and commissioners of deeds, 8 trustees of the reform school for boys and 9 trustees of the girls' reform school.

During his administration President McKinley also will have a number of life appointments at his disposal, including three places of the supreme court, the federal bench and in the army and navy, of which class of officers are allowed to retire on full pay.

The Postoffices.

No field embraces more positions over which contests will be made by aspiring candidates than the postal service. There are just 70,612 postoffices in the country, and most of these change hands with every administration. Of these over 66,500 are fourth-class postoffices, and 20,000 of these 66,500 are money order offices, or ones that pay well. The retiring administration is the first one to fix a four-year tenure of office, but this, of course, is not binding. These fourth-class appointments will be made all through the four years of the incoming administration. Of the presidential postoffices, about 250 will be at the disposal of Mr. McKinley during his first month in office. There are 40 cases of presidential postmasters' commissions already expired, not acted on by the Postoffice Department, and 38 more will expire during March.

There are 129 nominations of presidential postmasters upon which the Senate has so far taken no action, and probably 100 of these will be returned to the Postoffice Department without senatorial action, and thus be left to McKinley men. The remaining ones—about 50—are offices where the removal of the present postmaster doubtless will be immediately demanded and acceeded to. The principal presidential offices where the postmasters' terms will expire next month are: Meadville, Pa., on the 23d; Stamford, Conn., 30th; Augusta, Ga., 29th; Lansing, Mich., 23d; Cadiz, O., 27th, and Pendleton, Ore., 29th. There will be 49 more expirations of commissions in April.

In the department proper the only offices outside of the civil service are the four assistant postmasters general, the assistant attorney general for the Postoffice Department, the private secretary and stenographer and the corps of laborers. Semi-attached to the department are the two commissioners to investigate the overtime claims of letter carriers, now A. B. Hurt, ex-doorkeeper of the House, and Judge Lorenz. The former draws not only the $5 per diem paid as commissioner, but also $2,000 per annum as assistant superintendent of the free-delivery system of the department. Both of these offices probably will be acated early. Assistant Attorney General Thomas is a strong gold man, who has made a great record and may stay.

In the outside postal service the excepted offices include one assistant postmaster and cashier.

Interior Department.

In the Interior Department the offices not in the civil service embrace the following:

First assistant secretary, assistant secretary, assistant attorney general for the Interior Department, private secretary and confidential clerk, commissioner of pensions and two deputy commissioners, commissioner of the general land office and one assistant commissioner of patents, and one assistant commissioner of Indian affairs and one assistant, the Indian inspectors and almost two score Indian agents. Indians employed in the Indian service at large except superintendents, teachers and teacher of industries, kindergarten teachers and physicians, members of Indian commissions appointed by the President, commissioner of railroads, director of the geological survey, commissioner of education.

Department of Agriculture.

In the Agricultural Department there are few plums to be picked. The only offices now outside of the civil service are the assistant secretary of agriculture, the chief of the weather bureau, private secretary and confidential clerk to the secretary, and a corps of laborers. There is likely to be no change at the weather bureau, as Chief Moore, who was brought on from the Chicago station, is a Republican, appointed on the strength of having the finest record in the service.

Outside of the regular departmental service there are a number of independent branches of the government service, to some of which considerable patronage attaches. The chief of these places are the commissioner of labor, public printer, three civil service commissioners, a librarian of Congress and superintendent of the library, a commissioner of fish and fisheries, and chief of the bureau of American republics.

Hood's Pills

Should be in every family medicine chest and every traveller's grip. They are invaluable when the stomach is out of order; cure headache, biliousness, indigestion and all liver troubles. 25 cents.

WITH HER ARMS.

THE VENUS OF MILO WITH HER MISSING MEMBERS RESTORED.

The Famous Statue Was Found by a Peasant in 1820—Now One of the Features of the Louvre, Paris.

As there are few houses that do not have a copy of the famous Venus of the Paris Louvre, owing to the number and insidiousness of our friends, the Italian cast sellers, it will be of general interest to know that the vexed question of the original condition of the armless statue is up once more for discussion, and with a fair chance of being definitely settled. The Venus of the Louvre, as all know, is popularly called the Venus de Milo, receiving this appellation from the name of the little island in the Aegean Sea (one of the Sporades), on whose soil it was found by an ignorant peasant in 1820. Seen by the French vice consul at Milo, the French ambassador, by the easy methods of force and bribery, was able to carry off this rich spoil to grace the palace of art on the Seine. Long a subject for wrangling archaeologists, a French writer, M. Pierre Moroges, in the current number of "L'Illustration," rallies all the evidence there is as to the actual original state of the statue, and

THE VENUS AS SHE IS AND SHOULD BE.

The armless Venus de Milo, according to the contention of eye witnesses who saw her at Milo in 1820, should appear somewhat as restored in the companion cut, with her left hand holding an apple and her right hand grasping her drapery.

in a witty article, which shows scant courtesy for the theorizing cabinet archaeologists, who have reconstructed the Venus after their own fashion with about ten per cent of probability and 90 per cent of fancy, points out how there is cumulative evidence for belief that the statue when found was entire and not mutilated; that the right hand of the statue rested gracefully upon the drapery, which she caught with her hand as it fell in negligent folds from her hips; that the left arm, relieved from the body, held in its outstretched hand an apple.

Just why if, as M. Moroges believes, there is trustworthy and contemporaneous testimony that the statue was found in this condition there should ever have been any doubt raised as to its attitude is explained by the writer as follows: Buying the statue was one thing, getting possession of it another. As is well known, the Frenchman who saw it and recognized its worth had a hard time of it. First there was the dickering with the peasant whose plow stumbled over the statue; then there was a conflict over it with an Armenian priest, the usual bribing of the chief of the island, but even then, although well oiled, nothing went smoothly, and finally the French sailors from the French squadron then lying at Milo were ordered to take the statue by main force. This they did, and, according to M. Brest, the French vice consul at Milo, and M. Matterer, lieutenant on the Chevrette, one of the French vessels, a disgraceful squabble took place in which Venus was handled without mercy, pulled and hauled and rolled about by the contending forces, and so lost both her arms. And now comes the main point in the controversy. According to M. Moroges, the officials not caring to acknowledge the rape of Venus, as it were, nor anxious to meet an accusation of vandalism, agreed to make out an official report to which all who had anything to do with the securing of the statue were to conform, and this official report was to the effect that the statue, as it appears to-day, was found in that very same condition.

Naturally, those who actually saw the statue soon after it was found were not easily silenced. But, M. Moroges wittily observes, the reconstructed archaeologists were not going to let such a little thing as eye-witnesses stand between them and their hobby. Such eye-witness accounts, therefore, that have been known have been discredited, but a new eye-witness—and it is this that inspired L'Illustration's article—has been found, and he confirms all that the others have said as to the original condition of the statue. Now, all these original witnesses are harmonious on the main points. First, there is Dumont d'Arville, an ensign on the Chevrette, who was at Milo when the statue was found. He wrote a report on the statue and said:

"She represented a nude woman, whose left arm extended from the body, held an apple in its hand, while the right arm sustained the drapery, gracefully arranged and falling negligently from the hips to the feet. He was confirmed in this by Lieutenant Matterer, also of the Chevrette. Vice-Consul Brest admits the fight over the statue and its consequent damage. Again, Henry Rochefort, in 1883, called attention to the fact that one of his relatives, who was a brother-in-law of the French ambassador who brought the statue home from Milo, had been known to say that the Venus "held in one hand an apple, while with the other she lightly grasped her robe." Finally, L'Illustration received a letter a few days ago from the Marquis de Trogoff-Lanvaux, whose father, M. de Trogoff, was a young "aspirant" on board the corvette L'Esperance, which lay at Milo during the eventful period when the Venus was secured, and in his diary written at the time he notes that the Venus "was well preserved. In one of her hands she held an apple. She is of great beauty, and her draperies are admirable."

The Marquis de Trogoff-Lanvaux thinks that his father's diary is unimpeachable, and M. Moroges, the writer of the article, places the testimony of Dumont d'Arville, Vice-Consul Brest, Lieutenant Matterer, and Aspirant Trogoff against the fanciful ideas of the archaeologists. He therefore would reconstruct the Venus as shown in the cut in the Press to-day. As M. Moroges points out, archaeologists of all countries and all nations have tried their hands at the famous Venus. Some of the more celebrated reconstructions are presented in this issue. Whether this latest confirmation of Dumont d'Arville will scatter the cabinet experts is not certain. Venus without her arms, will, however, always be more fascinating to many than with them, no matter what the authority may be for the reconstruction.—Philadelphia Press.

FALSE HISTORY.

Some Inaccuracies Into Which Eminent Writers Have Fallen.

The same year that Alexander died at Babylon, Diogenes died at Corinth, 323 B. C.; but not, we may be sure, in a tub, because he never made such a fool of himself as to live in one. The story that he did so had no better origin than a comment by his biographer, Seneca, who was not born till more than 300 years after the cynic's death: "A man so crabbed ought to have lived in a tub like a dog."

In 216 B. C. Hannibal, with about 50,000 men, nearly annihilated the Roman army of 90,000 at Cannae, in Apulia, Italy, but it is all a fable to say that he sent three bushels of gold rings plucked from the hands of dead Roman knights back to Carthage as evidence of the victory. The messenger who carried the news back to the Carthaginian senate, on concluding his report, "opened his robe and threw out a number of gold rings gathered on the field of battle."

Four years later the Romans under Marcellus attacked and captured Syracuse, belonging to Greece, because of its alliance with Hannibal against Rome. As the invading ships approached Archimedes is said to have set some of them on fire with immense burning glasses. However, modern science has so well watered this story that it only remains to add that even at this day the feat would be impossible.

Thirty years, B. C., Cleopatra killed herself to avoid being exhibited at Rome in the triumph of Octavinus because the triumph of Octavinus, who had made war upon her and Antony because the latter had divorced his (Octavinus') sister on the queen's account. But did she die from a snake's bite? It is better to think not. "If her death had been caused by any serpent, the small viper would rather have been chosen than the large asp; but the story is disproved by her having decked herself in 'the royal ornaments,' and being found dead 'without any marks of suspicion of poison on her body.'"

Death from a serpent's bite could not have been mistaken, and her vanity would not have allowed her to choose one which would have disfigured her in so frightful a manner.

Other persons were well understood and easy of access, and no boy would have ventured to carry an asp in a basket of figs, some of which he even offered to the guards as he passed, and even Plutarch shows that the story of the asp was doubted. Nor is the statue carried in Augustus' triumph, which had an asp upon it, any proof if his belief in it, since the snake was the emblem of Egyptian royalty; the statue (or the crown) of Cleopatra could not have been without one, and this was probably the origin of the whole story.

Here one may naturally ask: Who has not heard of Cleopatra's wonderful pearls, one of which, at a banquet given in Antony's honor, she dissolved in vinegar? Either this story also is fictitious or vinegar was evidently different in those days from the present day kind, which will not melt pearls.

It was nearly 100 years later that the Emperor Nero also killed himself, 68 A. D. Stabbing was the choice this time, though, and of this we make no question. What we wish to say about him is that he was not so bad a monster as usually imagined. His mother, Agrippina, was not put to death by his order, nor did he play upon his harp and sing "The Burning of Troy" while Rome was on fire. Our knowledge of him is gained mostly from Tacitus, who hated him, and from Petronius Arbiter, who was put to death for conspiracy against him. "Even in Rome itself the common people strewed flowers on the grave of Nero."—Pearson's Weekly.

MODERN NURSES.

A change of tone has been remarked lately in current allusions to nurses and the nursing profession. For some years after Mrs. Gamp ceased to be the popular type her successor was alluded to as if she were a perfect being made up of cleverness and unselfishness, a sort of "human angel with a cast-iron back," into whose hands it was a recognized duty to surrender our nearest and dearest in times of sickness.

Now, on the contrary, it is frequently hinted that the nursing young woman is a compound of vanity, frivolity and incompetence—such as a damsel who "cheerfully announced that, as her father was blind and her mother paralyzed, it was very dull at home, and so she was going to be a hospital nurse."

It is hoped that the profession of nursing will now at least find its level, the best type of modern girl making the claim to a higher vocation than the teacher, but wishing to be given her proper position as a skilled assistant in serious illness.

The daily or visiting nurse is a recent development of modern nursing and meets the needs of many people who find it inconvenient to have a nurse stopping in the house and requiring more or less attention from servants perhaps already overtaxed. The visiting nurse comes in for an hour or so every day to perform those services for which her skill is needed.

The Little Pessimist.

We slave
To save
The shining gold.
We brave
The grave
To be called bold.

We taste
With haste
The joys of love.
Debased,
We waste
Gifts from above.

—Silas McChesney Piper in New York Sun.

His Excuse.

Mother—Johnny, why did you not tell me that you were naughty at school?

Johnny—'Tisn't best to tell women everything.—Boston Traveler.

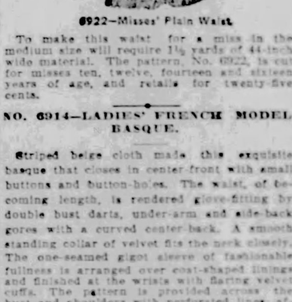
CUT PAPER PATTERNS.

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of THE BLADE.

NO. 6910—CHILD'S COAT.

This stylish and protective little top-garment is made from electric-blue ladies' cloth, the yoke collar and cuffs being trimmed with chinchilla fur. The coat, gathered in "Mother Hubbard" style depends from a short body which is fitted by shoulder and under-arm seams, being completely concealed by the deeply notched cape-collar that falls in tab-fashion front and back and forms epaulets over the full sleeves. The yoke laps deeply in center-front, being closed with buttons, of large coat-hooks and eyes, allowing the short skirt portion of the coat to fall open and expose at times the pretty two-toned silk lining. The Bishop sleeves are moderately but fashionably full, being gathered top and bottom and mounted over linings of comfortable width, and are faced below the elbow to simulate square cuffs trimmed around the wrists with chinchilla fur. A comfortable rolling collar of the cloth, with flaring ends, completes the neck.

The mode is adapted to all seasonable coatings, the pretty Scotch mixtures now so much worn being particularly serviceable for coats in this style. Broadcloth, cheviot, tweed, cheviot, camel's hair, bengaline and moire peplin will develop stylishly, and with trimming of feather, mink, angora, or baby lamb completing a very tasty little garment. A warm interlining will be required between the coat is made from silk or dress cloth.



6910—Child's Coat.

To make this coat for a child of six years will require 3¼ yards of 44-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6910, is cut in sizes for children two, four, six and eight years of age, and retails for twenty-five cents.

NO. 6922—MISSES' PLAIN WAIST.

Our illustration portrays a neat and serviceable waist made of figured woolen. The glove-fitting adjustment is accomplished by single bust darts, under-arm and side-back gores and back, through which the closing is effected with buttons and button-holes. A plain standing collar of velvet finishes the neck. The stylish sleeves, of moderate size, are adjusted over coat-shaped lining, the fullness at the top is arranged in gathers and the wrists plainly completed. A narrow belt of velvet encircles the waist. The model devoid of ornamentation can be cut with the closest economy and the design readily executed by the home dressmaker. For every-day wear the pattern is admirably adapted, and when worn by very little girls a dainty white apron of nainsook will be a charming addition, while a rise of larger growth may wear one of the pretty colored barres of white embroidery or batiste now in vogue. One waist called from the dress for a miss of sixteen was of indigo blue vienna, smartened up with white linen collar and cuffs and a pretty stock of ribbon.

6922—Misses' Plain Waist.

To make this waist for a miss in the medium size will require 1¾ yards of 44-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6922, is cut for misses ten, twelve, fourteen and sixteen years of age, and retails for twenty-five cents.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade, in ordering, address, Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio, enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

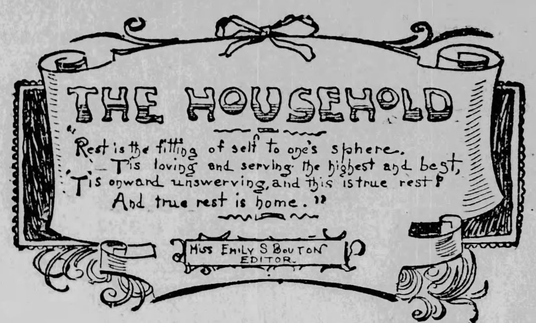
Full description and directions as to number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

THE THROAT.—"Brown's Bronchial Troches" act directly on the organs of the voice. They have an extraordinary effect in all disorders of the throat.

W. S. Witham, of Atlanta, is president of twenty-seven Georgia banks located in the small towns of that state.

NO. 6914—LADIES' FRENCH MODEL BASQUE.

Striped beige cloth made this exquisite basque that closes in center-front with small buttons and button-holes. The waist, of becoming length, is rendered close-fitting by double bust darts, under-arm and side-back gores with a curved center-back. A smooth standing collar of velvet fits the neck closely. The one-seamed gigot sleeve of fashionable fullness is



SLUMBER SONG.

Written for The Blade.

Come nestle your head, my darling,
In mother's arms to-night,
While she sings of Nod-away,
'Till little eyes close tight.

The quaint old town of Nod-away
Is reached with a rocking chair;
A kiss and a hush-a-bye low,
And mother's darling is there.

In sleepy, queer old Nod-away,
Baby ne'er thinks of play,
But peacefully slumbers on
'Till the dawning of golden day.

When every night the sun sinks low,
My darling, tired out with play,
Begs me to sing a quaint old song,
As we sail to Nod-away.

CARRIE M. KEPNER.

OUR COZY CORNER.

THE COLD WEATHER MAKES IT PLEASANTER THAN EVER.

Keep Up Good Courage by Talking Matters Over With Love and Sympathy for All.

With the approach of the Lenten season many of the women and girls who have given their entire attention to society functions during the winter are seriously considering the subject of charity work.

They must have something to occupy their time, and, as I overheard a girl in a street car say: "It's more fun to sew for poor people, even, than to stay at home and do nothing," and so we may look for an increased number of meetings to sew for the hospitals, infirmary people and foundling's homes.

To be sure, it frequently happens that the matron of the institution thus "assisted" will be obliged to take to pieces and make over the impossible-to-use garments sent her by these amateur seamstresses, but that does not affect them, they have the work for sweet charity's sake and for the sake of amusing themselves.

After all, it isn't the younger women alone who give thoughtfully, or unwisely. And, another thing in connection with giving is, that many of us who are older in years, and in the work, come very often to think that it is we who are giving, instead of realizing that we are but stewards.

We say we will give adoration to this, or that worthy object that has been brought to our notice, and form, first of all, "soliciting committees," who go out among friends and strangers indiscriminately "soliciting" money, provisions, articles to sell, if we are to have a bazaar, and when all is done and we proudly hand over to the proper person, the result of our work, it is very often a fact that we the originators of the scheme have given absolutely nothing except the time that was required to solicit the gift from others. And our hearts swell with a proud consciousness of our goodness when we read in the daily papers that the officers of the home for suffering sinners gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a generous donation from the ladies of the X. Y. Z. Society.

"But," says a friend, "is it nothing to give your time for soliciting?" To be sure it is, so much, that so far as I am personally concerned I would prefer to do a day of any kind of hard labor and give the money I received for it in place of "soliciting."

Aside from the unpleasantness of asking and being refused by people who are constantly called upon to help others to be generous, or of receiving the help for which you ask in such an ungracious "I've-got-to-give" manner, there seems to me to be something morally wrong in expecting that men and women who are obliged to work for their own support, and that of their families, should give to every one who asks of them or else be counted unfeeling or parsimonious. They know how much they can afford to give for others needs, and in nine of every ten instances they give, without being asked, all that they can spare.

I had occasion recently to visit a factory where a large number of men were employed. As I entered I met two ladies very richly dressed leaving the building. One said to the other: "I was never so insulted, the idea of that workman speaking as he did, and so heartless of him, too, to refuse to give one cent for such a worthy cause."

After attending to the business that called me there, I asked my friend if he could explain the remark I heard as I entered the building, knowing that soliciting was not generally allowed in such places. He called up one of the men and repeated the question to him, adding that he noticed the ladies had been speaking to him.

The man's honest face flushed as he replied: "Yes, sir; I supose she was angry with me. Those ladies were the third lot who have applied to me to help some charity business this week. This time it was to pay the rent of a woman who was unable to do hard work as she had always been a lady, and since her husband died she didn't know how to manage. I told them I wouldn't give a cent; that she could learn to work, just as my wife has to, and if the ladies felt so bad for her I thought they could save their time if they would chip in and pay her rent themselves instead of trespassing around and begging poor working men to do it for them.

"I am sorry," he continued, "that I was rude, but you know I have a wife and seven children of my own to take care of, and I have been out of work a good part of the time, so I couldn't give, and it made me so hot to think of such women expecting me to help do their charity work that I forgot myself."

And yet, it isn't always just to judge of a woman's, or a man's, ability to give by their outward appearance. There are many women whose fine clothes are but a part of the establishment to which they belong, and who have quite as little spending money, to "use as they please," as any laboring man's wife. You doubt it? I know it to be true.

Came two little children to their mother's shelf,
(One was quite little, the other big),
And each in freedom calmly helped himself,
(One was a pig).

The food was free and plenty for them both,
But one was rather dull and very small,
So the big, smarter brother, nothing loath,
He took it all.

At which the little fellow raised a yell
Which tired the other's more aesthetic ears;
He gave him here a crust and there a shell
To stop his tears.

He gave with pride, in manner calm and bland,
Finding the other's hunger a delight;
He gave with piety—his full left hand
Hid from his right.

He gave and gave;—O blessed Charity!
How sweet and beautiful a thing it is!
How fine to see that big boy giving free
What is not his!
—Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

Waiting patiently till the charity talk was finished was Belle Warrington, who wishes to tell "other young mothers" how she dresses her boy:

"In spite of the fashion followed by some mothers, I dress my boys in kilts until they are more than three years old, as I think they look so absurd in trousers until the legs can be made at least ten inches long. I make the waist of Johnny's dress, a blouse with a wide collar, and for his Sunday suit of dark blue flannel, the waist is open at the neck like a sailor suit, and a white underwaist is worn. This has a collar attached and his "tie"—the delight of his heart—is fastened under it.

For the next suit I have a full skirt, which is convenient and becoming. For school wear I think the golf knickerbockers are better than the tight-fitting short trousers, as they wear better and are a sort of compromise between the long and short garments. All wool goods, in small or invisible checks, are the most durable and satisfactory goods for boy's wear; the figure preventing the inevitable patch from being so much in evidence, as it is when plain goods are used.

For outside wear the younger boys have long ulsters, with a cape lined with red cloth, which is very becoming to them. With these a cap to correspond is worn. The older boys wear reefers.

Mrs. J. W. Rinker sends the following verses with other comforting words to Mrs. E. E. McL., and, doubtless, they will help others who are in trouble and sorrow:

I am glad Heaven's door is open,
Is open for all who may see,
The beacon light brightly beaming,
As a welcome for you and for me.

This beautiful beacon light shining
Far out o'er life's stormy sea,
Is the guiding hand of the Master,
Reaching out after you and me.

Will you take it, O, earth-weary wanderer,
Who are drifting along with the tide?
It will lift you out from the darkness,
And show you the brightness inside.

Inside, where there's warmth and comfort,
In, when no more we will roam.
In, where we're free from sorrow and sin,
In, to our Father's home.

Miss Annie Reynolds has this to say to Lulu:

I have long been a reader of this interesting circle, but have not had the courage to write since its organization but on seeing Lulu's query I can keep silent no longer.

The idea that God sends affliction on his children is, to me, a mistaken one. Did not Jesus go about healing the sick and was he not sent to destroy the work of the devil? If it was God who sent sickness and disease on the people why did Jesus undo his work?

I believe God is often responsible for the work of the devil. As in days of old when Jesus healed every one who came to him, so he will do at the present day if we only ask in faith believing God's word. I have seen and talked with a great many people who were healed by faith in Jesus.

The editor regrets that she cannot comply with the request that accompanies this letter, but she has not the desired information in her possession.

Amelie asks Luke to read John ix, 23 verse, and accept the lesson found there. Amelie was under medical treatment for many years and has found a perfect cure for all of her troubles in having faith in the Lord's promises.

As a change from spiritual to a purely material subject read this from L. E.:

I first wish to tell you, dear editor, that I think the Cosy Corner is doing great good in the homes of its readers. It stimulates, encourages and helps many a weary one.

I come this morning for an apple dumpling recipe, if I can get one, like mother used to make them. She could make such good ones, but alas, she was called home while I was yet a child. I have tried and experimented, but they always burst open before they are done, and the dough gets watersoaked. I don't like them baked, I want boiled dumplings, and I know there is a rule to go by to make fruit dumplings. So please somebody send it to The Blade. Begin at the beginning and tell the whole operation. It seems to me that mother scalded her dough, but I am not certain.

The jaybird sat on a hickory limb,
And a sad, sad bird was he;
His grief and his woe (or his woe and his grief)
Was a pitiful thing to see.
"Oh, why do you weep?" the field mouse asked.
Said the bird:—"I learned to-day
That the thing you see there holding the plough
Is also called a jay."

Annie May asks to be told "all about giving a theatre party."

First, you must invite your guests at least two weeks before the entertainment, and answers accepting or declining these invitations should be returned at once. This is in order that the required number of seats may be secured. The invitations should specify the time of the performance at the theatre, whether it be in the evening or at a matinee, and the invited guests should be prompt in meeting a half or three-quarters of an hour before the appointed time at the home of the hostess where those not previously acquainted may be introduced. The party then proceed to the theatre in any way provided by the hostess, and occupy the seats assigned them by her.

After the performance is over, the party usually return to the home of their entertainer, or adjourn to a catering establishment and partake of a luncheon or supper.

If they are taken to the theatre in a carriage, the hostess must accompany each guest to her home before she returns to her own.

If the party is in honor of a friend, her name should appear on the card of invitation. Sometimes a luncheon precedes the play.

Carrie L. is suffering from the trouble that seems common to all young ladies when invited to their first dinner party, the fear that she will not know how to eat properly. There is no advice that can be given more comprehensive than to suggest to you to be as natural as you can. Every girl now-a-days who is old enough to be invited out to dinner, should have such perfect table-manners, as they are called, that by quietly observing how her older and more experienced neighbors manage the unusual dishes that may be served, she can, at least, avoid attracting attention in any manner. Be as natural as you can, Carrie, eat in such a manner as will best avaoid calling public attention to your "newness." If you can not eat certain things with a fork without danger of landing the food in your next neighbor's lap, or plate, do not try to do so; it will be much better in such case to use your spoon.

And very likely, you will find that after all, a "swell dinner," as you call it, is not very different from what you have been accustomed to at home.

I recently saw a picture of a small kitten looking at an immense lobster which was reaching out its claws in all directions, and this was an unmistakable case of, as the lines underneath the picture said: "Plenty to eat, but how shall I eat it?"

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB

Is Entertained and Edified To-Day by Charter Member Number Two.

Mrs. Alice A. Koller was a welcome visitor at the "Club" this morning.

Mrs. Belle Hurd very kindly answered Mrs. E. B. Ray's inquiry concerning "rolled stitch" in crochet, and having expressed herself as much pleased with the club, was unanimously elected to membership.

Mrs. Ella R. E. C., insured her admittance by bringing with her a beautifully described and illustrated "suggestion." We shall always be glad to see her and her work.

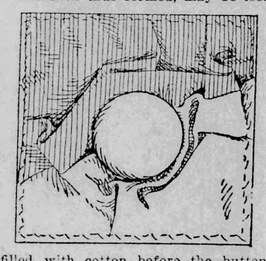
The first description submitted by the "speaker of the day" was of

A Sofa Cushion.

made in this way to use up small pieces of silk:

The blocks may be made of any desired size, the sample sent, being on a foundation of white cotton cloth, 4¼ inches square; the silk pieces of two colors, joined diagonally, as shown in the illustration, form a square an inch larger than the foundation, the extra fullness being gathered in along the edges, or laid in a pleat at each side.

The sack thus formed, may be loosely



filled with cotton before the button is sewed on, giving the effect of upholstery.

The blocks may be made of one color, if preferred, and the buttons are all covered with the same color; in the sample, the colors are fawn and a lavender and white check, with cardinal button.

Sew the blocks together in a seam, six squares each way, and bind the pillow with ribbon, a ruffle of silk or lace would finish it nicely.

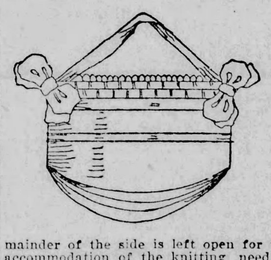
It is, of course, lined, and stuffed with any material preferred.

Knitting Bag.

This is made in afghan stitch of blue and white zephyr.

Put on about 60 sitches with the white worsted, and crochet three rows; then join the blue and work 6 rows. Continue alternating 3 of white with 6 of blue until you have 7 white stripes and 6 blue ones.

Fold the ends of the piece together and join them at each side in a seam, extending as far as the third white row; the re-



mainder of the side is left open for the accommodation of the knitting needles, being slightly drawn up with a cord or elastic.

Finish the top of the bag with two rows of open crochet, in which is run blue satin ribbon; similar ribbon being used to suspend it, ending in double bows at each side.

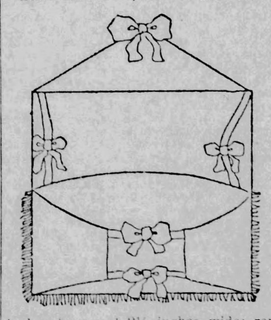
The bag is lined with blue silk, and may be drawn up at the top, if preferred, either by means of the ribbon or by an elastic cord.

A row of crocheted scallops may be added to the open work at the top of the bag.

Spectacle Case.

Take a piece of stiff cardboard about 6 inches square and pointed at one end like an envelope flap. Cover with velvet, put a layer of wadding on the inner side and line with pretty silk.

Take another piece of cardboard 6



inches long and 2½ inches wide; round it slightly at the upper edge, cover in a similar way, and join to the lower edge of the back piece with over-hand stitches.

Cut and cover two more pieces, 2x2½ inches, and join to the back, so that when folded forward over the front piece the whole will be in the form of an envelope.

Sew narrow ribbons at both ends of the front piece at the upper edge, and tie to ribbons sewed to the back where the flap is sloped; these are to support the front, and similar ribbons are attached to each front corner of the end pieces to hold them in place across the front.

A bow of the same ribbon decorates the point of the flap, and a bead fringe, 1½ inches deep, finishes the bottom and side edges of the case.

In such a case, the spectacles can be laid without closing—which is very desirable when the bows are slender.

For Mrs. E. B. Ray's benefit, Mrs. Belle Hurd explained "roll stitch" as follows:

Make a chain of 4 stitches and join; work 3 double (no thread over) in each foundation stitch, then for the "roll stitch" put the thread around the needle 20 times, put the needle in the work, thread over, draw through the coil of 20 loops, thread over, draw through 1 loop on needle.

Repeat all around the work, making 12 rolls in all.

The other information you offer will be very acceptable to the club.

Marie and Modern Priscilla will entertain us next week.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

Breakfast is not, in all families, a very cheerful meal. Members of the family who were up late the previous night, do not feel like arising early and if they do, they are cross, oftentimes, and are no desirable addition to the party gathered around the breakfast table. The men of the house are usually in haste to get to their places of business and have no patience with the cook who is behind time, be she mistress or maid. Many times unpleasant words are spoken at breakfast—words that are repented of immediately but which spoil the day for some one.

I read the other day of a couple who found that they were growing to be very unpleasant toward each other and as a remedy, they resolved not to speak one word till after breakfast. A novel idea but one that worked like a charm with these people.

Of course cheerful conversation is a good thing with which to begin the day, but unless the "speech" is certain to be "silver" it is better to preserve the "golden silence."

A little extra effort on the part of the housekeeper to provide something especially good for this meal, will be an excellent way to help the family to begin the day aright.

Many families have for a regular, every-morning breakfast dish, some form of cereal, and in time this becomes tiresome. It can be made more desirable if sometimes a handful of chopped dates is added to the oat meal, wheatlet, etc. Stone the dates, chop, or cut them quite small and stir into the meal when it is hot. Figs used in the same manner are excellent and make a pleasing variety to the breakfast.

An uncommon dish to recommend for breakfast, but one that is very good is called:

Proverbs.

I cupful milk; 1 egg; 2 cupfuls of flour; 1 teaspoonful of baking powder and ¼ teaspoonful of salt. Beat thoroughly and bake in Gem pans in a hot oven. The novelty of this lies in its name only.

A favorite dish for luncheon in South Dakota is called

Rice Stew.

Wash and soak for 1 hr., in cold water, ¼ lb. of Carolina rice. Then drain, and add ½ lb. of sausage and ½ lb. of ham, cut in small pieces; ½ of a small, red pepper; 1 small onion, and ½ cupful canned tomatoes. Fry these in 1 heaping spoonful of lard till brown; add 1 pt. of water and cook slowly till the rice is tender. Serve hot. Remnants of cold meat or chicken may be used instead of the ham and sausage.

Mock Cherry Pie.

1 cupful of cranberries cut in halves; 1 cupful of sugar; ½ cupful of water and 1 tablespoonful of flour. Mix and bake between two crusts. Cutting the cranberries in two prevents them from bursting and boiling to pieces.

ALL THE DAY LONG.

What Comes to Waiting Ones at Morning, Noon and Night.

NIGHT.

Fifteen minutes till supper time! Who thought our little neighbor would keep us so long? But she was so filled with admiration, and made so many appreciative little exclamations, that it seemed we were gone only a few minutes. "Is it just a scrap book?" she cried incredulously, running a fingertip over the purple pansies. "What a rare creature you are? Where did you get this cunning little story by Wm. Dean Howell, Watching for St. Nick? And isn't it nice you have his autobiography next to it? You found these old Pompeiian jars in an art magazine, didn't you? What nice headings they make! Who would have thought of illustrating poems in water-colors, for a scrap book? This In the Clover Walk is perfectly lovely! etc." and then she brought out an old Leslie, and said, balancing it on her palm: "This would never do, would it?"

"Why, of course," we say, and decide immediately what to trim out, and even select some engravings before we think to look at the clock; but even in our dismay at the lateness of the hour we pause a moment to ask enticingly: "You will go to prayer meeting with us this evening? A walk will do you good."

"Yes, if baby——"

"O, if baby roars we can leave him to play with a little brown pup we know. He'll keep baby much quieter than we could, and sputters roguishly "gee goo," which undoubtedly means "we will go," so we hurriedly depart.

So good there is a nice fire, and the tea-kettle beginning to sing. Put a handful of tea in this earthen pitcher and fill it with boiling water. Now wrap it closely and you will by and by have a good "English cup." What else can we prepare in a hurry quickest? A Welsh rarebit? The very thing. Open the stove door, and toast some generous slices of bread, and don't spare the butter. Cheese stale! Never mind, pour a cup of milk into the pan of hissing butter, and melt the lumps of cheese in it. It will make a delicious cream to pour over the toast—better, we think, than simply the melted cheese.

The boys are a rod off, but we have the table set, find some preserves, and here we have a supper too good for many a guest of whom we have read. "We shall call round at the church as early as possible," calls back a brother as he marches off to the store. Bless him isn't he good?

Five minutes for supper dishes, and ten more to arrange everything for breakfast, then we find that we have nearly two hours till meeting time; so we get our little case of paints and begin the sketch we have kept in mind all day. They say evening is not the time to paint, but if we spoil this modest strip of drawing paper, pasted in the center of our green pasteboard "matt," no one need call us extravagant. However, we do not spoil it, we have excellent luck, and here the frosty morning lies witchlike and glistening, while over the dim, darkly outlined convent, glows the watchful moon. We prop it against the big lamp and don our wraps. At the door we turn back for another peep. How cold it looks! Aren't we glad we have learned to keep memories like this on paper? If the minister says to-night: "Now instead of the usual testimony meeting, we will each tell of something for which we are thankful," we have not find a dearth of topics? If he asks for scripture verses, can we not repeat understandingly: "He giveth his snow like wool. He casteth forth his ice like morsels."

Such a lovely meeting. The baby was a perfect cherub, and at his gate nearly threw himself out of his buggy to shout at us "goo-goo-gaa!" which meant "We'll go again."

While our hearty brethren are lunching and reading their papers (how horrified the people of ye olden time would have been at such a proceeding) we get our Bible and read the whole wonderful drama of Esther. We wonder if any one else knows how beautiful it is.

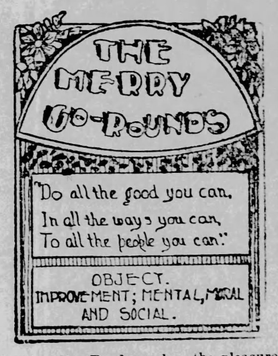
No author since has ever written any thing more forceful and thrilling. No wonder we turn on our pillow and think it all over again. We are too excited to sleep.

We resort to a review of poems, one we ardly remember is The Beautiful Land of Nod, and then we drowsily begin in the Psalms: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; He leadeth"—and in a moment it seems the jeweled hand of dawn pushes us and here is the whole beautiful day to do over again.

JENNIE HARRIS.

True Service.

The servants have a large share in the hospitality of a home. They soon catch the mood and manner of the head of the house, and are almost invariably imitative. The insolent coachman who dashes up to the curb, forcing you to draw back, and bespatters you with mud, always ranges his employer in my mind. He would never twice offend a considerate thoroughbred mistress by such discourtesy. Riches of yesterday are vouched for with every plunge of display, which adds to your discomfort. I have never yet failed, where I had a chance to verify my conjectures, to find the master reflected in some degree in the man. The way in which the servant wide y opens the door, as if hoping the guest will enter, will be a vicarious welcome. A door barely opened, threatening to close as if there was a suspicion that the overcoats were unsafe, is not an uncommon piece of bad manners, and a servant with discretion enough to show you the respect to allow you to enter if you desire, or if an old friend, or "a cousin from the country," to make you comfortable, to take your wraps, stir the fire, and offer you a cup of tea, is a jewel only to be found where the atmosphere is full of cordial friendliness. A household of social insincerities breed untruthful servants as fast as any germ can multiply itself. I think that we are unaware how great a help a cheerful "good morning" or a kind "good night" is, inchanging a place into a home, and you have never received true service until your people have reached that point: when your waitress says to herself, our parlor and our table, and your nurse talks about our baby, then you begin to sink peacefully into your easy chair and know that they will do their best.—Philadelphia Times.



Again Miss Prudence has the pleasure of introducting several new members to the M. G. R.'s. A "timid stranger" from New Jersey, calling herself "Apple Blossom," tells us that she has enjoyed "skating with 'Jersey Lily,'" to such a degree that she feels as if she must ask admittance to the M. G. R. meetings. "Irish Dannie" thinks he can 'easily enough' follow our motto. Not so easy, Dannie, as you might think, but it is well worth the effort required to "live it." "Bitter Sweet" from Pa., writes a pretty little letter asking permission to "join hands with the circle and help to make things move merrily." A "Jewel" from Missouri introduces herself as a music teacher, and one who, when she dies, would like to have music to "make death sweeter." "Minnehaha" promises, if admitted, to tell us about the Indian tribes of South Dakota, and last, but by no means least, comes a "Missouri Boy"—who states that he thinks he comes up to our "ideal of manhood" and sends a photograph of himself that Miss Prudence may judge of his "good looks."

It would not answer for Miss Prudence to tell "right out in meeting" what she thinks of his "good looks;" it might make him vain, so she will just say to him, and to the other candidates for admission, that they are all welcome to come with us, if they have anything of interest to say, and will be careful about their spelling and writing.

One mistaken idea that several correspondents seem to be imbued with, is that they can join the Merry-Go-Rounds merely for the purpose of private correspondence with the members. This is entirely out of the question. The addresses are given only to regular correspondents, who endeavor to make this department more interesting by their letters, and in return, the editor gives them the pleasure of corresponding with some of their co-workers.

This statement has been made necessary by the number of letters received, reading something like this: "I wish to join the M. G. R.'s. Please send me the address of ——, and ——, and ——," e c. It is unnecessary to say that such letters receive no attention. Those who are entitled to these addresses for private correspondence should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope, with the names of the one, or two, whose address they desire; not the letter, asking the editor to "address and forward" it for them.

These directions may seem tedious to read, and they are very decidedly tedious to give so many times, but they only apply to newcomers, and to those who forget easily.

The New England Girl will please give especial attention to "Sack Stubbs," who has come a long ways this morning to speak with her:

Miss Prudence: May I step to the front long enough to present myself to N. E. Girl as her "ideal," with the following "defects?"

Am not very brave; not overstocked with intelligence; neither with industry; my kindness sometimes gives out and I am rather forgetful. But I do claim to be honest and do not drink, swear, or use tobacco in any form. I hope my constant effort to overcome the defects and then, N. E. Girl, I will be "on the market."

Bonnie Burnie brings with her to-day most excellient recommeadations to the love and good will of each member of the M. G. R. Circle, for a good, helpful daughter is just the one to take for a friend:

When Missourian looked at me this morning and asked in a stern voice, "What's your occupation?" I nearly fainted. I was just going to say, "I haven't any," but mother sinned and said: "She's my chief cook and bottle washer at home." Yes, that's it—cook, eat and wash dishes; wash dishes, eat, then cook again. But as I'm the only girl (or boy either) in our family, what else would you expect? But I find time to read and study my shorthand books nearly every day.

Brunette:—I echo the sentiment of Egyptian Friend concerning the teacher's circle of M. G. R's. Teachers' meetings are always full of interest for me, although I'm a very poor specimen of a teacher. My highest ambition is to live "in deeds, not years," and to leave after me a spotless reputation.

Boadicea has this to say in answer to Pussy's question:

Pussy:—One serious objection to passing the educational compulsory school law is, that any law will not enforce itself. Kansas, for instance, has a compulsory school law and it is of no effect. It is a principle in human nature to hate to do what we are compelled to do. Then, too, the Catnolics and Lutherans would bitterly oppose such a law, and anything which tends to stir up religious strife as this issue inevitably must, is best left alone.

I send congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Scarlet Wing. Won't they please write and tell us of their new home and new life?

Speaking of Mr. and Mrs. Scarlet Wing reminds the Chaperone of a private letter from Mrs. Addie, which she was recently permitted to read. It was a beautiful letter telling of the former and the present lives of these two Merry-Go-Round friends and of the experience that led to the final result of their correspondence.

Theirs seems to have been one of the matches that are made in heaven, though The Blade Merry-Go-Round column was the medium used in working out the plans. If Miss Prudence could be as certain that all of her girls and boys would be as happily settled in life as these two are, she would be satisfied, and wish for all, as she does for Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, a life-long continuance of the blessings they seem now to enjoy.

"Tonkie" explains: May I come in and try to answer Pussy's question concerning the line in Holmes' "Chambered Nautilus," which reads: "Shut thee from Heaven with a dome more vast"?

I think the poet takes as a premise the fact that we are all "shut from Heaven," and that as our nobler qualities are developed as do we grow nearer to it or are shut from it, "with a dome more vast," until, if we live as our Creator meant us to, we will have outgrown the shell we leave by "life's unresting sea."

Literature is my favorite study, Pussy, and the last stanza of the "Chambered Nautilus my favorite quotation, and I could not permit you to rest under a misconception of even one line of it.

Miss Prudence, why can't we have more of such questions, or indeed, thoughts on literature in any form?

There is no reason why we can not have the column filled every week with "such questions," or with some others that will be instructive and helpful to us all, except the one reason, i. e., that the M. G. R's. will not send letters. It is, and has been from the very first, the hope of the editor that this department might become a means of exchanging ideas on useful subjects and of developing higher and better life for the members, but—

Hoosere Puer Poeta helps us to-day in developing this idea of improvement in a very acceptable manner:

"Pastry Cook:—The "Mightier Power" spoken of by Bryant in his poem, "The Winds," means slavery as experienced in Europe and also in this country at the time of his writing this poem.

Bryant says to the winds: "Why rage ye thus," and expresses a wish that this "power" or wronged spirit of our race shall not rage as the winds when it (the power) is free.

The universal lesson in this poem, I believe, is "Self-Control."

Every poem to be a "true" piece of literature must contain a universal or central idea to be put before the "mind's eye" to produce a feeling of deeper and purer sensibilities by the study of it.

"Learn one truth and remember it, build thereon with another and the foundation of life is made" is a maxim that I hope every M. G. R. friend will carefully consider.

Please tell "Pussy" that the expression, "Shut thee from Heaven, etc.," used by Holmes in "Chambered Nautilus," does not mean to literally shut one from the home above, but for us to so build a temple each year with a larger dome each time, until finally the dome, or our better spirit and nature, is so vast as to reach upward to heaven.

This is, figuratively speaking, but I believe it is the analogical thought hidden in the quotation, for the universal idea or lesson therein is hope, perseverance and inspiration. There is a whole sermon in this text I believe, and I can hardly express it in condensed form.

Miss Prudence wishes to acknowledge the receipt of an original poem by "Hosere Puer Poeta," entitled "A Springtime Day," and which he has very kindly dedicated to the Chaperone of the Merry-Go-Rounds. It is very well written, and sets forth in a pleasing manner the thought that our lives are as a day.

The poem is too long to be given entire in this department, but this closing stanza will give you an idea of its dominant thought:

"Let your light, as the light of Heaven,
Brighten hearts on every side,
Never fading—carried homeward
To the land beyond the tide."

"Light is strength and hope is cheering,
And they guide us in the strife,
Through the never ceasing battles,
Till we reach the higher life."

The Puer Poeta will please accept thanks for the honor he has shown to the Chaperone, who certainly expects some day to hear of him, as having reached the "heights of fame" to which he aspires, and then she will say, "Ah! yes, he was once one of my boys in The Blade Merry-Go-Rounds," and will feel a kind of reflected glory in his success.

Another M. G. R. has sent her a shorter poem called "The Wings of Time," for which she thanks him, and, more especially, for the kind words that accompanied it.

A photograph of "Cora Mia" is another reason for special thanksgiving on the part of Miss Prudence. It does her good to see such bright, cheerful, intelligent faces and to know that she may count them as her "friends."

The requisites for membership in the M. G. R.'s are that some member of your family is, at present, a yearly subscriber to The Blade; that you promise to guide so far as possible, your daily life by the motto at the head of the column, and send for the benefit of those who read The Blade helpful and interesting letters occasionally.

Badges of the order can be obtained only at this office and will be sent postpaid upon receipt of the price, 50 cents.

Letters should be concise, written with ink on one side only of the paper, and signed with the writer's full name and address, as well as the name you wish to appear in the paper.

All communications for this department should be addressed to "The Blade, Toledo, O.," and in the lower left hand corner the words M. G. R.

THE BEST WAY.

If I make a face at Billy,
He will make a face at me;
That makes two ugly faces,
And a quarrel don't you see?
And then I double up my fist
And hit him, and he'll pay
Me back by giving me a kick,
Unless I run away.

But if I smile at Billy,
'Tis sure to make him laugh;
You'd say, if you could see him,
'Twas jollier by half
Than kicks and ugly faces.
I tell you all the while,
It's pleasanter for any boy
(Or girl) to laugh and smile.
—Religious Herald.

MISS PRUDENCE'S "TOWER"

Takes Her by a Sort of Zig-Zag Route Across Half a Dozen States.

In Missouri my hostess was Miss Flora Culver, M. G. R. president for the state, and one of the charter members of O. W. C.

She met me at the station with her "dearest friend," and the drive to her home along the smooth bottom land roads was a rest to me after the bustle of travel through which I had lately passed.

The road led to the south at first, then turned to the east, and at this turning was a pretty little grove, with a beautiful green to the east of it.

Very soon we were opposite the "creamery," situated somewhat back from the road, with a creek winding along behind it, forming a pretty bit of scenery, with a green back-ground of trees.

We crossed the creek directly, on a long iron bridge supported by stone piers, and I greatly admired the little stream, winding along between banks shaded by overhanging trees.

Just above the bridge, it breaks over a dam, it is not deep, but ripples along its rocky bed, until it is lost in the distance. It is a spot that might well have tempted Isaac Walton himself!

From the bridge, the road led up a hill to the main street of the town, and in a short time we had reached "home," and my hostess introduced me to her mother who was waiting for us at the door.

A long quiet morning followed, filled with pleasant chat about books and people of mutual interest, and in the afternoon we took a stroll about the little "city."

At the top of another hill, (hills and trees abound in Dawn) we passed around the Presbyterian church, and came to the school house, a two-roomed building, located in a pleasant grove.

In the northern part of the town, are located some of the prettiest dwellings, and the finest trees both ornamental and fruit-bearing.

A peasant walk through a beautiful little grove, brought us to an open space from which we had an extensive view of the surrounding country.

Advancing a short distance, we looked down an almost perpendicular distance of about 60 feet, into a deserted gravel pit, which is fast becoming a wilderness of cotton-wood and willows.

Next morning we went down to the

creek at a point where the bank slopes gently to the water's edge. Held back by the dam, it is quite wide and deep just here, and in winter forms an admirable skating place, which the young people of the town are very prompt to avail themselves of, I was told.

From Missouri I stepped across into Arkansas, and was met at Eureka, by my hostess in the state, Miss Nellie Inman.

The medicinal springs for which the place is famous were first visited, and then I was whisked away to Fayetteville, the "Athens of Arkansas," so-called, because the state university is situated there.

The city is lighted with electricity and has numerous manufactories and buildings of interest, besides the handsome university.

We visited the two cemeteries south of the city, where sleep the heroes who wore the blue and gray, and bravely fell at the battle of Prairie Grove, six miles away.

After a visit to the state capital, that was altogether too brief to permit us to do even passing justice to the many items of interest it contained and bestowing but a "fleeting glance" as it were, on the wells where porcelain earth has been found just 18 feet below the general surface, we hurried away to Hot Springs, one of the most remarkable phenomena of the United States.

These are more than one hundred in number and issue from a steep bank, flowing downward nearly 200 feet. According to chemical analysis the water contains carbolic acid, potash, magnesia, sulphuric acid, chloride and soda, but their medicinal value is attributed to their high degree of temperature which is 60 Fahr.

My hostess next took me to view some relics of the "Mound Builders'" period, and the Mammoth spring in Fulton county, where, from a cavernous opening 40 yards in diameter the water boils up at the rate of 8,000 barrels a minute! This water contains so much carbolic acid that the surface is in a continual state of boiling.

Verily, Arkansas is a wonderful state, rich in resources of every description, and I left it fully sympathizing with Miss Inman's enthusiastic praise of her "home, sweet home."

My Tennessee president, Mr. N. C. Myers, did the honors of the "Volunteer" state in a manner that sustained my former excellent opinion of him.

In the city of Greenville he first took me to the tailor shop where President Andrew Johnson once worked at his trade; and later, showed me the monument erected to his memory.

We next visited Ft. Saunders, made memorable by the civil war, situated in the southern part of the city of Knoxville. While here, we visited "Island Home," so finely described not long ago by one of the M. G. R.'s.

Returning to the court house green, I was shown the tomb of Gov. Sevier, who was chief magistrate of his state at three different times.

Taking a street car we went to the National cemetery, where lies the dust of 4,000 federal soldiers, and from there to Gray cemetery, where there is a monument to the memory of the "Fighting Parson" (Brownlow). An ex-governor of Tennessee, and many noble men are interred here.

Going to Chattanooga, we visited the Chickamauga National Military Park, and ascended Missionary Ridge by the Lookout Inclined R. R., realizing, as we stood at the top, the appropriateness of the title "Battle above the Clouds," bestowed upon that memorable conflict.

My last stop in Tennessee was at the capital, where my guide took me to the Centennial buildings, one of them being a reproduction of the "Parthenon," the "chief glory of architecture," built 500 years B. C.

This building is lighted principally by a sky-light, and its fifty-eight beautiful fluted columns, gave me an inkling of specimens of the glory of ancient Greece.

Here, too, on departing I left my host declaring that not one-hundredth part of the wonder and beauties of his native state had been inspected.

Verily this is a wonderful Union, where each state surpasses every other, and the inhabitants take their oath thereto!

My Kentucky M. G. R. failed to respond to my invitation to let me visit him, so I came northward until Illinois was reached. Here, at the home of my state president, Miss Green, a very pleasant afternoon and evening were spent in music and conversation, and on the following day, in company with a party of friends, we visited the home and tomb of Thomas Lincoln about 10 miles distant.

We approached the place from the west; it is little more than an empty field now, as the Lincoln cabin, exhibited at the World's Fair, was taken from here.

There are still to be seen a few traces of outbuildings, and an old well, with its crumbled and decayed curb, a few stones, and that is all.

Finding a suitable place, we ate our luncheon, and then visited the cemetery, two and one-half miles from the homestead.

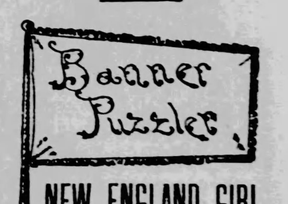
We found the grave, a well-kept mound marked by a plain marble shaft, bearing the inscription:

THOMAS LINCOLN,
Father of
The Martyred President,
Born
Jan. 6, 1778,
Died
Jan. 15, 1851.

Among the pleasant features of my Illinois visit was the meeting some especially agreeable people from Tennessee and Kentucky and a masculine friend of my hostess, who came down from Springfield for the occasion, to whom I was indebted for some good music, which I very much enjoyed.

[Concluded next week.]

OUR WONDER COLUMN.



1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born at Long Calderwood, in Lanarkshire, in 1728, and was the youngest of ten children, and because of the over-indulgence of his mother was simply able to read and write when he was twenty years of age. The fame of his brother's success as an anatomical lecturer made him desirous of entering the same profession, and he accordingly applied for, and obtained the situation of assistant in the dissecting room. His progress was so rapid that in the second session he was able to undertake the direction of the pupils in their dissection. In 1754 he entered St. George's Hospital as surgeon's pupil, and in 1768 was appointed surgeon to the Hospital. In 1767 he was elected a fellow of the Royal society, and in 1787 received from it the Copley medal. He died October 16, 1793.

PANSY.

2.—HIDDEN COUNTRIES.

1.—The boy was pained by your remark.
2.—Long years ago, Jaffire landed on our coast.
3.—I will pay you one franc each.
4.—I shall have to buy a sofa, lamp, and desk.
5.—Mother, can Ada go with me?

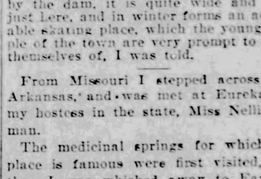
ROBT. L. KYLE.

3.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Having a field in the form of a circle, I plowed a strip 5 rods wide all around it, and found I had plowed 4 acres. Now, how wide a strip, next within the first, must I plow to contain the same number of acres?

N. HOLT.

4.—DIAMOND.



1.—A consonant.
2.—An exclamation.
3.—To turn aside.
4.—A noted ex-United States Senator.
5.—Prepared for resist

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

54TH CONGRESS—2D SESSION.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The House sent the naval bill, the last of the appropriation bills, to the Senate yesterday. Mr. Boutelle, chairman of the naval committee, was in charge of the measure and displayed such skill in its handling that its provisions aroused little opposition, and it was passed practically without amendment. The feature of the day was an excitingly interesting political debate which occurred late in the afternoon on the subject of civil service reform. It occurred during the consideration of a bill to permit the governors of the territories to appoint certain officers of the territories in case of vacancies, without the consent of the legislative councils, which is now required by law.

The Senate made slow progress yesterday on the appropriation bills, disposing of only one item of the Indian bill, that directing the opening of the Uncompahgre Indian reservation in Utah.

During the day a resolution by Mr. Mills of Texas, was adopted asking the President for information as to the death of Dr. Ruiz, at Guanabacoa, Cuba.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Attention was called to the Cuban question in the Senate yesterday, by the presentation of three resolutions on that subject. One of these came by unanimous vote from the committee on Foreign Relations, and called for the immediate and unconditional release of Julio Sanguilly, held at Havana.

Conference report on the bill amending the timber culture laws was agreed to.

Mr. Morrill (Vt.) withdrew his notice of a speech on the Cuban question, owing to the pressure of appropriation bills. There was a lively debate over Indian appropriations.

House.—Most of the day was devoted to District of Columbia business. The conference report on the bill to define the rights of the purchasers of the Atlantic & Pacific railroad under the foreclosure sale, was adopted.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The senate yesterday indulged in an exciting and bitter debate over the Cuban question. The text was a resolution demanding the immediate release of Julio Sanguilly, an American citizen, imprisoned in Cuba. The resolution was not acted upon and retains the right of way as unfinished business to-day. Bills passed were: House bill amending the act as to appointment of receivers of national banks; house bill to better define and regulate the rights of aliens to hold and own real estat in the states and territories; house bill for the delivery of letters in towns and villages by carriers to associations of over 20 persons, at their own expense.

House—Final action was had on both the agricultural and army bills in the house yesterday and a bill was passed to clothe the postoffice inspectors with the power of United States marshals in the matter of making arrests. The banking and currency committee brought forward the bill to authorize national banks to take out circulation to the par value of the bonds deposited. The bill was passed. A resolution was unanimously adopted requesting the president to transmit to the house all correspondence on file at the state department relative to the imprisonment of American prisoners in Cuba.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The last six days of the session are suspension days. All the ordinary rules are suspended and bills can be passed and resolutions adopted by a two-thirds vote of the house. Yesterday was the first of these six days and the house celebrated it by passing the senate international monetary conference bill.

Senate—After the dramatic Cuban debate in the senate, the discussion yesterday was comparatively spiritless. The Indian bill was considered up to 1 o'clock, when for three hours a general discussion of the Sanguilly case and the effect of the pardon occurred. The Indian appropriation bill passed at the night session. The first half hour of the night session was given to private pension bills, the pension calendar being cleared.

Washington, March 2.—The senate pressed steadily forward on the appropriation bills yesterday, make such progress that no further apprehension is felt as to the passage of these great fiscal measures. The District of Columbia bill was passed early in the day.

The naval bill brought out a contest on the price of armor plate and the establishment of a government armor factory. The bill was laid aside at 4:30 p. m., for an executive session.

House—The house had a lively discussion over the bill to prohibit the transmission of accounts of prize fights by mail or telegraph. It went over as unfinished business. The sundry civil bill was sent to conference. The postoffice appropriation bill was also sent to conference. A bill was passed to provide for the transmission to Washington of the presidential returns by mail. The bill abolishes the system of messengers now employed.

THE CRETAN TROUBLE.

MOSLEMS MASSACRED.

The Christians in Crete Give Them No Quarter.

Paris, March 2.—A dispatch to Eclair from Canea, says it is reported there that 2,000 Mussulmans, who were interred in the fortress near Selino, have all been massacred and that great apprehension is felt in regard to the fate of 4,000 Mussulmans who are besieged near Candia.

The insurgents effected a junction with the Greek regulars before bombarding the blockhouse at Slavaros on Sunday.

The Mussulmans of Canea are so incensed and excited at the danger of the co-religionists that the lives of Europeans are in danger and the foreign consulates are threatened.

MORE DEFIANCE.

Greek Government Refuses to Withdraw Troops.

Athens, March 2.—At a crowded meeting of the chamber of deputies Senor Delyannis announced in the most positive terms that it was the Turks who provoked the fighting that led the fleets of the powers to bombard Canea. The minister of marine read to the chamber the injunctions addressed by the foreign admirals to the commodore of the Greek fleet, forbidding either a sea or land attack upon occupied fortresses, or an attack by the Greek fleet upon Turkish ships for the advance of Col. Vassos into the interior, and stating that any attempt at evasion of these injunctions would be repelled by the combined fleet of the powers. This created a great sensation in the assembly. Deputy Seasis asserted that the reply of the Greek government should have been a declaration of war.

The minister of marine, resuming, said the government had notified the powers that it would be impossible to impose such a condition of inactivity upon Col. Vassos. He stated that Greece would use all the means in her power to prevent the landing of Turkish troops in Crete, but would desist from attacking fortified towns so long as the occupation lasted.

ULTIMATUM TO GREECE.

"You Must Get Off the Island of Crete."

St. Petersburg, Feb. 26.—Russia, through the Russian minister at Athens, M. K. Onou, has called upon Greece to withdraw all of her troops and the fleet from Crete within three days.

The foregoing semi-official announcement was accompanied by a long statement of the motives actuating Russia, namely:

That, to prevent the extension of the revolution to other portions of the Turkish empire, imperiling the peace of Europe, a stop must be put to the action of Greece, which is in opposition to international law. Before negotiations for a future Cretan constitution can be entered upon, it is asserted Russia has resolved to restore order in Crete. Then, after the Greek evacuation, under the protection of the powers, an autonomous government would be installed under the suzerainty of the sultan. The powers considered the Greek annexation of Crete out of the question.

GREAT BRITAIN

Proposes a Policy to the Powers of Europe.

London, Feb. 25.—In the House of Lords to-day the Marquis of Salisbury, replying to a question from Lord Dunraven, said that as the best means of placing the House in possession of the facts of the moment as regards Crete, he will read a telegram sent yesterday evening to the British ambassadors to the courts of the great powers. It was as follows:

"Inform the government to which you are accredited that Her Majesty's government purpose to make the following declaration of the policy which they intend to pursue and which they believe is in accordance with the views of their allies:

"Firstly, the establishment of an administrative autonomy in Crete as a necessary condition for the termination of the international occupation.

"Secondly, that, subject to the above condition, Crete ought, in their judgment, to remain a portion of the Turkish empire.

"Thirdly, the Turks and Greeks should be informed by the powers of this resolution.

"Fourthly, if Turkey or Greece should, when requested, persistently refuse to withdraw their military and naval forces from the island, the powers should impose their decision by force upon the state so refusing."

KING GEORGE

Will Not Retreat From His Position in Crete.

Athens, Feb. 25.—King George and his government reiterate that it is impossible for them to retreat from their decision in regard to Crete, which is supported by the whole nation.

King George has sent the following message to the Greek army: "The king in the present critical circumstances relies for aid on the nation, his officers and the army, and upon no foreign power."

According to the official figures 400 Turks were killed, wounded or missing in the recent fighting in Crete, and 104 were taken prisoners.

THE CUBAN WAR.

HAS WEYLER RESIGNED?

Such is the Latest Report From Cuba.

New York, March 1.—A dispatch to the Herald from Havana says: It is learned on the very highest authority that Captain-General Weyler has forwarded his resignation to the Spanish government at Madrid. The captain-general, it is said, will leave the island as soon as possible, probably in about three weeks.

This decisive step General Weyler determined to take as soon as he heard of the release of Julio Sanguilly. The captain-general had frequently said that he would resign if the crown should interfere with his policy in regard to prisoners, especially Americans, and he was incensed beyond measure at being ignored in the negotiations carried on by the Spanish government in the case of the notable captive, Sanguilly, who was released on Friday.

It is reported that General Ramon Blanco Y. Arenas, the Marquis of Pena Plata, may be appointed to succeed Gen. Weyler.

SANGUILLY FREE.

Very Thankful to Get Out of a Spanish Prison.

Havana, Feb. 27.—J. Julio Sanguilly having been set at liberty yesterday, spent the evening at his home with a large number of friends. He leaves today on the Mascotte for Key West. Sanguilly expressed his gratitude to the queen for the grace of pardon, which greatly surprised him, he never thought he would be pardoned. He said the first news of the pardon reached him through a cablegram received from Secretary of State Olney saying: "Advise Sanguilly's defender to withdraw his appeal and facilitate pardon."

Sanguilly believes the pardon was due to a desire on the part of her majesty to demonstrate her good will toward is President Cleveland and Secretary Olney for services rendered. On this account the preliminaries to the pardon were so hastened that the announcement might be made during the terms of office of Cleveland and Olney.

Sanguilly is well preserved in spite of his two years of imprisonment. He seemed very grateful to all the officers of the Cuban fortress, complimenting even the minor officials and mentioning especially the chiefs of staff of the fort for many courtesies shown to him. He had no complaint to make except in the matter of the imprisonment itself.

Sanguilly will be accompanied to the United States by his wife, son and adopted daughter. He will go to Tampa, where he will remain for a few days on account of delicate health of his wife.

Sanguilly on Safe Soil.

Key West, March 1.—Gen. Julio Sanguilly has arrived from Havana by the steamship Mascotte. He was not disposed to say anything further than what would express his lasting gratitude to Consul-General Fitzhugh Lee, whom he describes as a truly noble American, and a man who long ago should have been in Cuba. "Had he been there years ago," Gen. Sanguilly exclaimed, "there would have been less shedding of American blood." He was very much agitated as he expressed his feeling toward Consul-General Lee. Asked how he was treated during his confinement, he begged earnestly not to be compelled to recall his experience during the last two years.

AN INSULT TO LEE.

Scandalous Abuse From a Spanish Official in Havana.

New York, Feb. 27.—A despatch to the Herald from Havana, Cuba, says: The Marquis De Palmerela made a scandalous personal attack on General Lee Wednesday night in the palace in the presence of several newspaper correspondents. The incident arose because the censor refused to pass a despatch for the correspondents which said that the release of Scott had been demanded because he was both arrested and kept in prison in defiance of the law.

"Who told you that?" shouted General Palmerela, the secretary of state for the island.

"General Lee," replied a correspondent calmly.

"General Lee is a liar, imposter and rebel," shouted the little marquis with an oath.

This incident is telegraphed merely to show how the wind is blowing in the palace, and to let you see what must be the treatment and position of an ordinary citizen here when our consul general is reviled openly in such a manner by one of the heads of the government here.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

News From Spain's War in the Far East.

Madrid, Feb. 26.—Advices received here from Manilla says that an insurrection broke out there yesterday. Bands of Tagales and natives attacked the barracks of the revenue officers and gendarmes and murdered a military officer and four Spaniards in the streets. The troops restored order, killing 200 of the insurgents and arresting many others.

The object of the rising was to prevent the troops from attacking the Cavita.

JAPAN'S CURRENCY.

Gold Standard Adopted at Ratio of 32 1-3 to 1.

Yokohama, March 1.—The government has decided to adopt the gold standard at a ratio of 32 1-3 to 1. The smallest gold piece will be of the value of five yen. The silver yen will gradually be withdrawn. The new project comes into operation in October.

ST. BERNARD MONASTERY.

The Famous Refuge Damaged by an Avalanche.

London, March 1.—A special dispatch from Paris says that the monastery of St. Bernard has been partially destroyed by an avalanche. The left wing was demolished. The monks had to tunnel through the snow in order to make their exit. There was no loss of life.

Wolcott Coming Home.

London, Feb. 26.—United States Senator E. O. Wolcott, who has been visiting the continent in the interests of bimetallism, is expected to sail for New York to-morrow. It is said that the Senator has been much encouraged by his reception by the leading financiers of Europe.

Thos. Slater has a message for every man on page 3. Don't fail to read it.

M'KINLEY'S JOURNEY.

OFF FROM CANTON.

Impressive Scenes Attending McKinley's Departure.

Canton, O., March 2.—It was indeed a beautiful and impressive scene that Canton presented last evening when her citizens bid farewell to Major and Mrs. McKinley as they entered the special train in waiting to convey them to Washington. The people of the city seemed to have turned out en masse to do honor to the distinguished neighbors and friends who so long have been regarded with the greatest love and esteem, and who, by the honors they have won in the nation, have done so much to attract favorable attention to Canton. No lines were drawn in the large concourse of people which followed the McKinley carriage to the train and surrounded the station to mingle their cheers in the mighty round which re-echoed above the din of the train as it disappeared in the East.

Young and old, rich and poor, richly gowned and humbly clad, lowly and affluent; people of all political convictions, of all creeds and all social planes touched elbows and jostled each other about in the mighty throng which surrounded the Pennsylvania station, each seeking some point of vantage for a last look at the speeding party, and each good natured and indifferent to the occasional discomforts through the movements of others.

Promptly at 6 the bands, clubs and citizens began to organize in the City Hall square. Captain Harry Frease, who commanded the famous Canton troop during the campaign, was chief marshal, and Capt. H. L. Kuhns his chief of staff. They soon brought order out of chaos in the assembled multitude, and more devoted escort man never had than that which, shortly before 7 o'clock, marched to the McKinley home. A platoon of white-gloved policemen headed the line, and back of it came the Canton troop. This is an organization of nearly 100 citizens organized in the early campaign to entertain the visiting delegations. They wear military coats, broad-brimmed hats, top boots, light-colored gauntlets and are all well mounted and drilled in cavalry tactics. The troop leaves for Washington to-day and will participate in the inaugural parade.

Following the troop came Canton's famous Grand Army band. This in turn was followed by the Third Battalion, Eighth Regiment, Ohio National Guard. This regiment was to have been honorary escort to the President-elect on the trip to Washington and from the capital station to the hotel, but the failure to secure satisfactory arrangements prevented its joining the inaugural demonstration. Three companies, a signal and a hospital corps, constitute the battalion. In the order named were the Canton Business Men's association, Grand Army posts, old soldiers, the First Ward Republican club, of which Major McKinley is a member, the Second Ward Republican clubs, other clubs and citizens of Canton, Massillon and other surrounding towns.

Thus organized, the column marched through the public square and up Market street hill, passing the McKinley house, and then counter-marching down Market street. When the Business Men's association was opposite the McKinley gate the column halted and waited for Major and Mrs. McKinley and their attendants to enter the carriage in waiting. This carriage was drawn by four splendidly comparisoned horses and around it the members of the Canton Business Men's association stationed themselves as a guard of honor. Two mounted aides rode abreast of the carriage's horses, and the business men completed the hollow square in which the carriage moved.

There was no detour from the direct route to the station. All along the line the carriage containing the President-elect and wife was kept in a halo of brilliant light from flambeaux, emitting lurid red rays. At various points along the line colored fires were also burned, and although there was no organized effort in that line, individuals at various places sent sky-rockets and Roman candles whizzing through the air. As the head of the column reached the train and halted, the crowds formed with the marchers until the surrounding streets were filled with a seething, surging mass of humanity, each straining to get nearest the point where the President-elect would be last seen, and some striving for a last hand-shake, although the committee had arranged that there should be none of this.

From the rear platform of the train the Major made the following address to his friends who were at the station to bid him farewell:

"My Neighbors, Friends and Fellow-Citizens:—On the eve of departure to the seat of government, soon to assume the duties of an arduous responsibility as great as can devolve upon any man, nothing could give me greater pleasure than this farewell greeting; this evidence of your friendship and sympathy, your good will, and I am sure the prayers of all the people with whom I have lived so long and whose confidence and esteem are dearer to me than any other earthly honors.

"To all of us, the future is a sealed book, but if I can, by official act or administration, in any degree add to the prosperity of our beloved country and the comfort and well being of our splendid citizenship, I will devote the best and most unselfish efforts of my life. (Loud and continued aplause.) The assumption of the chief magistracy is of such grave importance that partisanship can not blind the judgment or accept any other considerations, but for the public good to every party and every section. With this thought uppermost in my mind, I reluctantly take leave of my friends and my neighbors, cherishing in my heart the sweetest memories and the tenderest thoughts of my old home—my home now—and, I trust my home hereafter so long as I live. (Tremendous applause.) I thank you and bid you good-bye."

ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

Preparations for the Inauguration Are Complete.

Washington, March 2.—President-elect McKinley, with his family and large party of friends, arrived safely in the Capital City a minute after 11 o'clock this morning over the Pennsylvania railroad. The weather was cheerful and bright, with warm sunshine over all, and a temperature if anything too high to be seasonable. A large crowd had assembled at the Pennsylvania station long before the train arrived, and it required the efforts of a considerable force of police to keep clear the approaches to the station.

There was a good deal of disappointment expressed among these people over the absence of military in the escort, but it was by special request of the President-elect that such formalities were dispensed with on this occasion, and the crowd had to be content with the sight of the magnificently attired staff of Governor Bushnell, of Ohio, in place of the expected military parade.

Major McKinley was at once driven to the Ebbitt House, where he will stay until after the inauguration.

The night trip from Canton was made on schedule time and without incident worthy of note. The President-elect arose this morning in good spirits and made a tour of the train immediately after breakfast.

"I feel in splendid health," he said to The Associated Press, as he walked up to his physician, Dr. Phillips, in the second car back, saying: "I thought you were going to call upon me this morning, Doctor, but I see I must do the calling." The doctor quickly rejoined that he was glad his patient was progressing so well.

Before Baltimore was reached, the Major joined a company of friends in the combination car and chatted and smoked.

Looking out of the car window the President-elect remarked that the scenes seemed very familiar to him. He traversed the road frequently going to and from Canton during the fourteen years he had been in Congress. His first act after arising this morning was to call upon his mother in the car adjoining his. She was seated at the breakfast table with Miss Helen McKinley and Mrs. Osborne, of Cleveland, while Mr. Webb Hayes, of Cleveland, did the honors.

At Baltimore the train sheds and viaducts roundabout were crowded with a crowd of about 5,000 people waving and cheering and trying to get a glimpse at the Presidential car. An exceedingly warm greeting was given Major McKinley when he stepped out on the rear platform and bowed his acknowledgments. The crowd seemed anxious to hear from the President-elect, but no speech was made, the Major simply bowing and smiling. The Presidential party was met in the Monumental City by Mr. and Mrs. Abner McKinley and daughter Mabel, of New York, and Mr. Charles G. Dawes, national committeeman from Illinois.

The train was photographed at slow speed a few miles out of Baltimore on the last 40 miles to Washington.

M'KINLEY'S QUARTERS.

The New President Has Upset Some Precedents.

Washington, March 2.—For the first time in the history of the national capital a President-elect has taken up his abode at the Ebbitt House instead of at the Arlington. The latter hotel has had the honor of housing all of the incoming Presidents since it was erected, but President-elect McKinley has a warm spot in his heart for the Ebbitt, where he lived continuously during his congressional career, and accordingly he threw overboard the precedent attached to the Arlington.

The suite that will shelter Major McKinley and his party for the next 24 hours is the finest in the Ebbitt House. It is on the third floor, and fronts west, south and east, the windows of the greater length looking down upon Fourteenth street, known throughout the country as "Newspaper Row." There is a private corridor, thus securing absolute seclusion. Private parlors on the first floor are also set aside for the exclusive use of the President-elect, together with a separate dining-room reached by a private staircase.

There are ten rooms in the main suite, and all have been re-decorated and furnished. The smaller red parlor on the first floor and four larger rooms along the same corridor are reserved for any receptions the President-elect may decide to hold, while he can meet his personal friends and others whom he may desire to see privately in the private reception room on the third floor.

WHITE HOUSE READY.

For the New President to Take Possession.

Washington, March 2.—"I have never seen the White House in such perfect condition as it is to-day," said Capt. Dubois, the chief usher who has served in different capacities in the President's house for very many years. The house is really ready for occupancy by President and Mrs. McKinley at any moment. All personal effects belonging to President Cleveland have been removed to the Princeton home. The furnishing proper of the rooms belonging to the national government and with the exception of a certain stiffness in aspect, attributable to the absence of little knicknacks and personal belongings which may be supplied by the new comers, everything looks homelike and comfortable. The furniture has been renovated, the carpets cleaned and the picture frames regilded and freshened, so that the interior furnishings look new although this had to be accomplished with the expenditure of a small sum of money. Gen. Wilson, chief of engineers, has given his personal attention to every detail continuing voluntarily the duties that were imposed upon him as superintendent of public buildings and grounds until the close of the present administration.

As the private portion of the White House is at present arranged there are six bed chambers. President Cleveland occupies a large room next to the northwest corner on the second floor, but it does not follow that the same apartment will serve as the sleeping room of his successor. Mr. Porter, Major McKinley's secretary, was at the White House for some time and looked carefully over the interior. He was not prepared to indicate how the sleeping apartments should be selected, but it seemed that his fancy tended toward the bright sunny room on the southwest corner of the building across the corridor from President Cleveland's chamber, as the best for Mr. and Mrs. McKinley. This was the bed room of the Harrisons and because it is so cheery and sunny and has a southern exposure it appears best adapted to the needs of Mrs. McKinley.

Very near it and on the same side of the central corridor is the library, really used as a sitting room, for singularly enough the White House has no actual private parlor. Communicating doors between the rooms along the south front of the building would afford the President easy access to the official portion of the house.

PARADE MATTERS.

Chief Marshal Dodge, of Military Division, Announces Staff.

Washington, March 2.—General Dodge, chief marshal of the First, or Military Grand Division of the inaugural parade, has announced his staff, as follows: Gen. Andrew J. Hickenlooper, U. S. V., Ohio, chief of staff; Major J. H. Sanger, inspector general, U. S. A., adjutant general; Col. Wm. Carey Sanger, National Guard, New York, inspector general; Maj. H. C. Dunwoody, signal corps, U. S. A., chief signal officer; Capt. Leonard Wood, medical department, U. S. A., medical director; aides—Col. C. Cadle, U. S. V., Ohio; Col. Albert W. Swalm, National Guard, Iowa; Col. R. Norman, National Guard, Rhode Island; Maj. Geo. C. Reid, adjutant and inspector U. S. Marine corps; Maj. Allan McLane, National Guard, Maryland; Maj. J. W. Howard, National Guard, New Jersey; Maj. E. A. Hancock, National Guard, Pennsylvania; Lieut. J. Colwell, U. S. N.; Capt. Henry P. Kingsbury, Sixth Cavalry, U. S. A.; Capt. Fuller, Second Cavalry, U. S. A.; Capt. Joseph E. Kuhen, corps of engineers, U. S. A.; Capt. Thomas Crusey, A. Q. N., U. S. A.; Capt. G. H. Patrick, A. A. R. Alabama; Capt. J. E. Everest, U. S. Illinois. Lieut. G. L. Anderson, Fourth Artillery, U. S. A.; Lieut. Hugh J. Gallagher, Sixth Cavalry, U. S. A.; Lieut. F. C. Kimball, Fifth Infantry, U. S.; Lieut. Chas. A. Plumley, N. U., Vermont.

The pension office building has been turned over to the decoration committee to prepare for the inaugural. This will mean suspension of official business for the remainder of the week.

INAUGURATION WEEK.

Preparations for the Change of Administration.

Washington, March 1.—The people's interest this week will be centered on Washington. The ceremony of inaugurating a President is to be performed here. This inaugural will be exceptional. It is to be of unusual magnitude.

About the Arlington Hotel, where distinguished men congregate, Mark Hanna is seen, with Russell A. Alger, who is to be the next secretary of war, Thomas C. Platt, senator-elect from New York, is there, and so are Governor Bushnell, of Ohio; Myron T. Herrick, of Cleveland, and a long list of Ohio people, some big and some little—satellites that rotate around the governor or the senator-to-be, Mr. Hanna.

It is already plain that Ohio is to be well represented in this affair. That is natural and proper enough, for Ohio is giving the show. Up to this time its delegation is the largest on the scene, and it would be difficult to throw a stone into the Arlington lobby without hitting a citizen of the Buckeye state.

Festivities of Three Days.

The ceremonies of the inaugural will last for three days.

First, at noon Thursday the president will take the oath on the steps of the capitol. Immediately afterward his trip to the White House will give opportunity for a great parade, military and civic.

In the evening of this day will be held the great inaugural ball, which in many respects will be eclipsed by no like function in all the world. During the progress of the ball a superb fireworks display will dazzle a vast multitude around the White House lot.

On Friday and Saturday nights instrumental and vocal concerts will be held on a scale of remarkable magnitude and attractiveness.

While the general public is interested chiefly in the parade, the ball is the stellar attraction in the eyes of state and society. The balls of former administrations have been gorgeous affairs, but the one next Thursday promises to eclipse them all. It will cost the citizens of Washington alone upward of $20,000, to say nothing of the vast amount they will lay out in admission tickets. Ten thousand ball tickets at $5 each, and the same number of ball tickets at $1 each, have been placed on sale, and the supply will be none too great for the demand.

The Grand Ball.

The ball will be given in the pension building. This is the biggest brick building in the United States, if not in the whole world. Its whole area is more than two acres, and its great central court, which is to be the ball-room, covers one acre. There is no such room as this in Europe. Neither Paris nor St. Petersburg has anything to compare with it.

This great room has corridors running around it. It has three wide galleries about its four sides, and enormous pillars, each as big around as a dining table, upholding its mighty roof. The roof is so high above the floor that a ten-story building could be put inside of the room and it would not touch the ceiling. There is a fountain in the center of the floor, the spray of which will be caught by thousands of incandescent globes and by a number of arc lights and turned into diamonds.

Grand Display of Fireworks.

While the 10,000 are making merry in the big ball-room a display of fireworks will be given on the lot near the Washington monument. Pain, the Coney Island pyrotechnist, secured the contract for this feature, and he promises a great exhibition of up-to-date pyrotechnics. His programme will not be announced ahead of the appearance of the official programme, but it is known that one of the pieces he will show will be an American flag, 250 by 500 feet, suspended by balloons in the sky immediately over the heads of the multitude present. Another display will be a midheaven piece that will for a moment turn night into day.

All of the inaugural music will be the best obtainable. Fifty bands have been engaged to furnish the day's musical inspiration. Some of these will be crack musical organizations, made up of the finest performers that money can hire; others will be drum corps, pressed into the service from wherever money and the pleasure of taking part in the great event can tempt them. At the ball 100 musicians will compose the orchestra. The concerts to follow will be led by a chorus of 5,000 trained voices.

The whole ceremony, from beginning to end, will be on a scale of lavish and magnificent grandeur.

COTTON CLOTHS.

Rhode Island Mills Will Increase Their Production.

Providence, R. I., March 1.—The Silver Spring bleachery began running on full time to-day. For the past eight months the plant has been running eight hours a day. About 550 hands are employed. The Greene & Daniel's yard mills at Central Falls began on a 60 hours per week schedule to-day after being on a 40 hours' schedule since last summer. The company employs over a thousand persons.

The mills of the Farwell Worsted Company, employing 500 hands, resumed operations to-day after a long period of entailment.

The Kent Woolen Company, of Centerville, and a number of smaller plants, are making preparations to start their machinery.

CORNER IN WOOL.

It Exists in Boston, and Was a Guarded Secret.

Boston, March 1.—One of the largest corners on wool ever attempted in the United States exists at present in this city in anticipation of the restoration of a tariff on wool.

The existence of the corner has been a well guarded secret for two weeks, but the operations of the men and their agents in London and Hamburg have become so bold as to attract attention and thus the secret got out.

The steamer Columbian, which arrived yesterday, brought 8,000 bales of wool, making a total of 261,100 bales which have arrived in port during the present month.

A syndicate was recently formed in this city to buy all the wool offered in European markets in anticipation of a duty of 10 per cent being put on wool by congress at the extra session, and the increased receipts are thus accounted for. Buyers have already purchased 15,000 bales of wool abroad, and will continue to purchase the same up to the time of the imposition of the duty, calculated at 11 cents a pound.

The syndicate has raised a pile of money and only a few days ago cabled $5,000,000 to London agents. It is calculated that 1,000,000 bales, or 300,000,000 pounds of Australian and South American wool, will be brought to this country by the syndicate within the time given.

All men should read Thos. Slater's offer on page 3.

A STORY OF CHUMS.

Barefooted Boys at Their Sports. Make-Believe Heroes.

THEIR UNTIMELY PARTING.

Chums!

They'd been chums from bare-footed boy-hood.

Thirty years ago they'd trudged together through swamps, and thickets and stubble-fields.

There was an old sunken log in the slough just out of town, where they used to stand knee-deep in the water and pull out sunfish. The bottom of the slough seen through the clear spring water was a landscape of green, moss-built mountains, hills and valleys. You could see Mr. Sunfish come "moseying" up a deep

ravine in moss, nosing a mossy mountain or hillside here and there for a dainty morsel of worm or fly. Now was your time. Impale a squirming angle or grub-worm on your hook, carefully hiding the forked head, and drop it gently down the sloping side of the mossy mountain, just a little way from Mr. Sunfish. A flash of light, a tug at the line, a rush, and then a sweep of the pole and Mr. Sunfish was doing acrobatics on the shelving sands of the slough.

It wasn't long before the chums had a nice string of beauties gilled on a forked sprig of willow, and safely anchored to the sunken log.

Then off to the marsh, each armed with a stout club with which to rap elusive frogs on the head. It was hit and miss—and miss oftener than hit.

When half-a-dozen fat fellows were bagged, back to camp by the sunken log. Build a bonfire, dress the frogs, fill an old tomato can with clear spring water, drop in the frogs, salt the whole with gunpowder, and put it on the fire to stew.

Those used to be feasts fit for the gods, especially if a neighboring farmer had thoughtfully cultivated a watermelon patch that would provide dessert.

Then in the fall the chums would "go a nutting" in the big woods and camp out over night. They'd start at noon and by sundown would have all the nuts they could carry. After a blackbird stew, cooked in a tomato can over an open fire, they'd prepare for the night. A big bonfire was built. Two couches, one on either side of the fire, were made from twigs and boughs of maple and hemlock. The firelight flickered through the big trees and transformed stumps and logs a rod away into grotesque grizzly bears and crouching catamounts.

And then the chums played Indian Scouts. There wasn't an Indian within a thousand miles, but they made believe that these woods, within hearing of the church bells and factory whistles, fairly swarmed with blood-thirsty red men. And they really believed themselves daring heroes taking desperate chances. While one slept, the other sat on the stump of a tree, well out of the firelight so that he could pierce the surrounding darkness, and watched for Indians. Thus for an hour or more this trusty sentinel would sit statue-like on a stump, with gun across his knee, and peer into the night. Then, when the stars told him his time was up, he'd waken his chum and take his turn at sleep, or, as he put it, at "pounding his ear."

At last, as daylight came on, the fire would seem to get low and there'd be a chill and damp in the air that made the chums yearn for home and hot coffee. And so, having been heroes for a whole night, they'd shoulder their harvest of nuts and in the early morning twilight trudge homeward through the swishing wet grass, just as the all-night places up in the sky were putting out their lights.

And then the chums went to college together, and were partners in business, and lived neighbors.

And now one is gone before, and the other stands with uncovered head beside the grave of his chum.

Life is a story of happy "chumhood" and sad partings. The old chums of thousands of sincere mourners might today be alive and well if they had only taken as good care of their health in manhood as their mothers took of it when they were boys. In boyhood days when chums got home wet and tired from an excursion into the woods, mother not only fed them, but if there was a little cough or cold, she promptly dosed them. She didn't let them try the experiment of "wearing out a cold." She knew better.

Seven out of every ten of the "chums" who die before their time, die of that dread destroyer, consumption, that foster-child of neglect. There is no necessity for these deaths. There's a sure and speedy remedy at hand. It is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It cures 98 per cent of all cases of consumption. It corrects all derangements of the digestive organs. It "gets a move" on the liver. It causes the life-giving elements of the food to be properly assimilated. It braces up. It builds up. It drives out impurities. It clears the lungs and lets the vivifying oxygen of the air penetrate every lung cell. It is the great blood-maker and flesh-builder. It is not only an almost unfailing cure for consumption and allied diseases like asthma, bronchitis, catarrh-throat troubles, weak lungs, and bleeding from lungs, but is also a marvelous remedy for all wasting diseases and diseases of the blood. Thousands who were mourned as doomed have testified to its almost miraculous virtues. Copies of their grateful letters may be obtained by writing to the discoverer of this wonderful medicine, Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y. "Golden Medical Discovery" is sold by all druggists—nothing else is "just as good."

Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser teaches you all about the home-treatment of diseases. It contains 1,008 pages and 300 illustrations. It used to cost $1.50; now it's FREE. For paper-cover, send 21 one-cent stamps, to cover mailing; cloth-cover, 10 cents extra. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Splendid Collection of Choice VEGETABLE and FLOWER SEEDS

Absolutely Given Away to Our Subscribers.

By special arrangement with MESSRS. MAY & CO., ST. PAUL, MINN., we will send postpaid, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS of Vegetable and Flower Seeds to all who subscribe for the WEEKLY BLADE.

These collections are put up for the exclusive use of the WEEKLY BLADE. Many of the varieties offered are new and choice, being introduced for the first time this season, and retail at 10c, 15c, and 25c per packet. Other sorts are standard varieties which have stood the test in all sections and proven thoroughly reliable. PLEASE READ OUR OFFERS CAREFULLY.

THE FOLLOWING COLLECTIONS SENT POSTPAID:

OFFER NO. 1. The Farm Garden.

This collection includes the standard varieties of Vegetable Seeds which are adapted to all sections of the United States. To any one sending $1 for the Weekly Blade one year we will send this collection free, post paid. This package if bought at retail would cost $1.40.

BEAN, R. P. Golden Wax ..... $ .10
ONION, Globe Danvers ..... .10
PEA, N. W. Premier ..... .10
TOMATO, The Acme ..... .05
CABBAGE, Surehead ..... .05
CORN, Early Minnesota ..... .05
CARROT, Danvers ..... .05
RADISH, Rosy Queen ..... .10
CUCUMBER, Garden Gem ..... .15
LETTUCE, Early Simpson ..... .05
TURNIP, Purple Top ..... .05
SQUASH, Sibley ..... .05
WATERMELON, Ice King ..... .10
PUMPKIN, Connecticut ..... .05
PARSNIP, Cobham Crown ..... .05
RADISH, Long Scarlet ..... .05
RUTABAGA, Shamrock ..... .05
MUSK MELON, Minnesota Perfection .. .10
PARSLEY, Plain ..... .05
BEET, Market Gardener ..... .10

Retail price $1.40
Packet alone to subscribers, 55c, postpaid.

OFFER NO. 2. Flower Garden.

To any one sending us $1.00 for a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade we will send, postpaid, the following charming collection of Flower Seeds. These are all free flowering annuals, and will produce a beautiful display of bloom during the summer months. Cultural directions on every packet. The regular retail price of this assortment is $1.30.

ASTERS, German Mixed ..... $ .10
PANSY, German Show ..... .10
NASTURTIUM, Tall Mixed ..... .05
POPPIES, Paeonia Mixed ..... .05
GAILLARDIA, Mixed ..... .05
GODETIAS, Giant Mixed ..... .10
MIGNONETTE, Sweet ..... .05
PETUNIA, Imperial Mixed ..... .10
ZINNIAS, Giant Mixed ..... .10
SWEET PEA, California Mixed ..... .10
FOUR O'CLOCKS ..... .05
PINKS, Double China ..... .05
MORNING GLORIES ..... .05
WIL FLOWER GARDEN, a collection of 10 different varieties ..... .15
PANSY, Swanley Blue ..... .15

Retail price $1.30
Packet alone to subscribers, 50c, postpaid.

OFFER NO. 3. Our Novelty Package.

To any one sending $1.00 for a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade we will send, postpaid, this collection free. In this assortment will be found many rare varieties of Vegetable and Flower Seeds of late introduction, some of which retail at 10c, 15c, and 25c per packet. These late introductions are vast improvements over the common sorts, and consequently more valuable. Retail price of this collection is $2.20.

PEAS, May's Sunol ..... $ .10
BEET, Detroit Dark Red, Favorite ..... .10
CUCUMBER, Early Prize ..... .10
CABBAGE, Surprise ..... .15
ONION, Red Wonder ..... .10
MUSK MELON, Pickaway ..... .10
CORN, Early Market ..... .10
RADISH, Queen of Market ..... .10
TOMATO, Shenandoah ..... .15
PANSY, Star Mixed ..... .10
SWEET PEAS, Gold Mixed ..... .10
PINK, Royal Banner ..... .15
GIANT SWEET WILLIAM ..... .10
VERBENA, Mammoth Mixed ..... .15
NASTURTIUM, Imp. Mixed ..... .10
PETUNIA, Rose Queen ..... .10
PANSY, Harlequin ..... .20

Retail price $2.25
Packet alone to subscribers, 65c, postpaid.

OFFER NO. 4. Our Early Kitchen Garden.

This package includes the earliest Vegetables of different classes, and is a splendid collection for a private garden. To any one sending $1.00 for the Weekly Blade one year we will send this collection, postpaid. The regular retail price of this assortment is $1.05.

CABBAGE, Early Summer ..... $ .05
BEET, Early Blood ..... .10
PEAS, N. W. Premier ..... .10
LETTUCE, Early Challenge ..... .05
CUCUMBER, Early Frame .....

WASHINGTON.

THE WILSON LAW

Brought About a Big Treasury Deficit.

Washington, March 2.—Two and a half years of the operation of the Wilson revenue law have ended. Going into effect Aug. 28, 1894, the close of the month of February, 1897, gives to the treasury and to the public thirty months of its work. The story of those thirty months told in a single line is a deficit of $130,000,000, or an average shortage of $144,000 per day. President McKinley will find on assuming the duties of his office a surplus of a little more than $100,000,000 in excess of the gold reserve, but this has been obtained by the sale of bonds which brought into the treasury $293,454,286.

The month of February was no exception to the general rule. The deficiency for this month is in round numbers $5,000,000, bringing the total deficiency for the two and a half years of the Wilson law above $130,000,000. This is in marked contrast to the record of the McKinley law during its first two and a half years. That law during the first thirty months of its operation produced a surplus of $25,508,515.

The Wilson law has been a failure in its production of revenue both as to the customs receipts and internal revenue. Reducing tariff rates upon the assumption that it would so stimulate importations as to increase the customs revenue, it in fact reduced the collections at the custom houses.

The following figures show the receipts under the McKinley and Wilson laws during the first two and a half years of the operations of each. It will be seen that in customs and internal revenue the receipts under the McKinley law were much greater than those under the Wilson law. It will be also observed that while the McKinley law during the first two and a half years of its operation produced a surplus of over $25,000,000, the Wilson law in the corresponding two and a half years of its existence produced a deficit of over $130,000,000:

	First 2½ years Wilson law.	First 2½ years McKinley law.
Customs	$302,731,977	$485,969,202
Internal revenue	315,188,472	380,066,734
Total receipts	762,084,685	920,080,650
Expenditures	984,062,856	894,572,184

The story of the two laws may be summarized in two lines as follows:

McKinley law, first 2½ years, surplus ..... $ 25,508,515
Wilson law, first 2½ years, deficit. 131,130,171

THE DEBT STATEMENT.

Of Course the Monthly Statement Shows an Increase.

Washington, March 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that the debt on February 28, less cash in the treasury, was $1,012,600,454, an increase for the month of $4,592,147. This increase is accounted for by an increase in the national bank redemption act and a decrease of $2,525,165 in the cash on hand.

The comparative statement of the receipts and expenditures of the United States shows the total receipts during February to have been $24,400,997, and the disbursements $28,796,056, which leaves a deficit for the month of $4,395,059 as compared with a deficit of about $690,000 for February, 1896. Since July 1, 1896, the aggregate deficit is $48,135,441.

REGARDING CUBA.

McKinley Likely to Send a War Ship to Havana.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Although Consul General Lee's resignation has not reached the department of state, and though his suggestion that a war ship be stationed in Havana harbor will not be complied with by this administration, there is high authority for the statement that shortly after his inauguration President McKinley will order a naval vessel to Havana.

President McKinley will do this not with any hostile intent, nor with any desire to embarrass the relations between the United States and Cuba, but simply as a token that the lives and liberties of American citizens in Cuba must hereafter be given more consideration by the Spanish authorities.

The order will be issued on the assumption that the Spanish have been too prone to wink at persecutions of American citizens, depending upon the known friendliness of the Cleveland administration and the unwillingness of the Washington authorities to protect the rights of Americans with vigorous and effective action.

The presence of a naval vessel of the United States in Havana harbor will be taken as evidence that the new administration intends to depart in some degree from the policy pursued by its predecessor, and that hereafter the same protection and respect must be given citizens of the United States as are accorded to the subjects of Great Britain and other nations in Cuba.

THE FOREST RESERVATION.

Resolutions to Override the President's Proclamation.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Senator Clark, of Wyoming, has prepared and will present the following as an amendment to the sundry civil bill:

"All lands within the states of Wyoming, South Dakota, Utah and Montana reserved and set apart by executive orders and proclamations of February 22, 1897, are hereby restored to the public domain and open to settlement, occupation and entry, under the land laws of the United States, the same as though said executive order and proclamation had not been made."

The senators from the states affected will make a vigorous effort to secure the incorporation of this amendment in this bill. Senator Clark said that not only had the reservations been made on the recommendation of the forestry commission, but that he was informed that the commission never had visited some of the reservations before making their recommendations.

A resolution introduced by Representative Mondell, Wyoming, yesterday, recites the facts of the recent forestry reservation order, and, in concluding, reads:

"Resolved, That the President of the United States is hereby requested to furnish to the House of Representatives all reports and papers relating to the segregation from the public domain and the establishment as forest reservations of the lands embraced in the executive proclamation of February 22, '97, together with all information with reference to the forest reservations therein established and the reasons for their establishment."

HON. J. H. BRIGHAM

Will Be the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

Washington, Feb. 26.—It is stated that J. H. Brigham, of Delta, O., master of the National Grange, has been offered and has accepted the office of assistant secretary of agriculture to succeed Mr. C. W. Dabney, of Tennessee. The latter is ready to retire at any time to resume his duty as president of the University of Tennessee, an office which has been held open for him.

THE NEW TARIFF.

McKinley Rates to be Restored Many Things.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The ways means committee is very "shy" about details of its work on the new tariff bill. They say frankly that if they give to the public the details of the work before it is completed, there, of course, will be in the country of 75,000,000 people, many who will be dissatisfied with protection given to their special interests and the rest of the announcing of the details of the bill would be to bring down upon them the overwhelming demands of such unreasonable character that they could not possibly comply with them.

"You may say, however," said one of the members of the committee in answer to a question from The Blade correspondent, "that McKinley law rates are going to prevail in the bill and especially in those features of the bill which relate to farmers and farm products."

The manufacturers of the East have not been as extreme in their demands for a high rate of protection as on former occasions, but the agriculturists and the Western manufacturers have been especially desirous of a restoration of the rates of the McKinley law, and they are going to get it in most cases. The committee is especially desirous of complying with the wishes of the farmers in the framing of this bill as far as possible, and as the farmers wanted a return to McKinley rates on their products they are going to get it in nearly all cases.

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IMMIGRATION BILL.

It is Vetoed.

Washington, March 2.—The President has vetoed the immigration bill. The message setting forth his objections to the measure has been written, and will be delivered to the House this afternoon.

THE THREE FRIENDS.

Supreme Court Decides Against the Filibuster.

Washington, March 1.—The United States supreme court reversed the decision of the district court of Florida in the Three Friends case, sustaining the contention of the government. The court was also ordered to resume custody of the steamer.

WHAT THEY WILL DO.

Plans of Cleveland's Cabinet Officers After Their Term Expires.

Washington, March 1.—The high officials of the several executive departments of the government holding positions to which new appointments usually are made soon after the inauguration of a new President, are busily engaged in bringing up the odds and ends of their work preparatory to leaving Washington as soon as their resignations have been accepted and their successors appointed. A large proportion will return to the homes which they left four years ago and resume the profession which was then interrupted.

All of the members of the Cabinet have laid their plans for the future, and have put their affairs in such shape as to enable them to return to the walks of private life and pick up their business connections without difficulty. The premier of the Cabinet, Secretary Olney, will go back to Boston just as soon as he can close up his household here and resume the practice of law. He has had under advisement for a long time an offer from Harvard University of the chair of international law, but has finally declined the place.

Secretary Lamont will take an actual rest for a time after he turns over his office to General Alger. He has packed up his household effects and will take his family, all the children included, on a six weeks' tour of the South, stopping mostly in Florida. He will return North from this trip to New York and take active charge of the various business interests, which he has never altogether relinquished during his occupancy of the office of Secretary of War.

Secretary Carlisle has not yet fully decided whether he will open a law office in New York city or Louisville, Ky., but his friends are of the opinion that ultimately he will decide in favor of New York.

Secretary Herbert has already announced his intention of opening a law office in Washington and taking up the active practice of the profession which he surrendered some years ago to enter Congress.

Attorney-General Harmon will re-enter his old law firm in Cincinnati.

Postmaster-General Wilson settled his plans for the future several weeks ago by accepting the post of president of Washington and Lee University at Lexington, Va. The office pays a salary of $5,000 a year and the presidential residence.

Secretary Francis will in all probability return to St. Louis within a fortnight after the change of administration. He immediately will resume the direct conduct of the brokerage business of the D. R. Francis commission house, and also reunite his ties to various commercial institutions of St. Louis, many of which he sacrificed to become Hoke Smith's successor as Secretary of the Interior.

Secretary Morton will go back to his splendid home at Arbor Lodge, just outside of Nebraska City, Neb. He had planned to leave here with his sister on Monday following the fourth, but Miss Morton is now seriously ill with pneumonia, and unless her condition is greatly improved, the departure will have to be deferred. The secretary's plans contemplate going directly to Chicago for a few days' visit and then on to his old home.

ALL OLD FELLOWS.

No "Youngsters" in McKinley's Official Family.

Washington, March 1.—The interesting thing about the Cabinet of President McKinley will be the maturity of its members. Unlike many of Mr. Cleveland's advisers, there will be no "youngsters" in it. Youngster in that political sense means a person under 45 years of age. Men of the age of Hoke Smith, Cleveland's Secretary of the Interior, and Wilson Bissell, Postmaster General, will be markedly absent from the Republican council board. No more venerable man than Secretary Sherman has sat at the President's table in years. His political career has been contemporaneous with the birth and progress of the Republican party. Secretary Gage of the Treasury has gown gray in studying out abstruse financial problems. General Alger to the War Department will bring an experience that runs back to war times, where he won his title. Ex-Governor Long was governor of the Bay State before the era of Young Russell, who hung on long enough to make his predecessor appear now as an elderly man. Judge McKenna and Secretary Wilson have both seen their hair whiten while public officers.

Naturally these many years of successful labor have brought financial independence to these distinguished political leaders, so that the Cabinet will rank among the wealthiest ever known. As to the sociability of the Cabinet it is an open secret that there will be little, if anything noticeable there. All are men more or less reserved, not given to comaraderie, and not expecting much of that from their acquaintances.

INTERNATIONAL ACTION.

Unmistakable Expression From the Country on Bimetallism.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The active discussion of international bimetallism which has been in progress here during the past few days has shown two or three interesting facts. One of these is the determination of the Republican orders to maintain absolutely the pledge of the Republican party with reference to this subject. While a handful of the representatives of the great financial centers opposer action on the Senate resolution authorizing the appointment of delegates to an international conference, they were as nothing compared with the overwhelming sentiment of the party and of the leaders of the party in favor of doing all that can be done in behalf of international action. While it is a fact that a surprisingly large proportion of the newspapers of the country profess the belief that international action for the rehabilitation of silver as money metal upon an equality with gold impossible, nevertheless the leaders of the Republican party and its representatives in Congress are determined to move steadily forward in the line outlined by state conventions and pledged by the Republican national convention in the year 1896, as well as that of the year 1892.

That the Republicans of the country generally have expected and demanded this course of action and that the pledge made by the national convention was in recognition of this demand on the part of the people is shown by a compilation of Republican state platforms of the year 1896 which has recently been made and brought to the attention of members of Congress and others interested in the subject. That compilation shows that the Republican conventions in 30 of the 45 states declared either explicitly or by implication in favor of international action on the silver question and also declared in equally explicit terms that individual action by the United States without international aid would be unavailing.

Following these conclusions the House yesterday passed the resolution for an international monetary conference.

ASKS BETTER BACKING.

Consul General Lee and Secretary Olney Disagree.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—General Lee still insists on the acceptance of his resignation. Secretary Olney desires to recall him, prefer charges of dereliction in the performance of his official duties, and throw whatever odium may arise from the scandal in the closing days of the administration upon General Lee.

From the ouset Mr. Olney strongly favored the immediate acceptance of Lee's resignation or his prompt recall. The President as vigorously antagonized action of this character and urged a compromise by which the consul general would be persuaded to reconsider his intention of retiring from office.

This disagreement of views created so much unpleasantness between the President and his secretary of state that an open breach was only averted by the fact that but six days of their time of office remains. Had the period of service been longer Mr. Olney would have promptly tendered his own resignation and withdrawn from the cabinet.

Telegram From Lee.

A brief but conclusive telegram was received yesterday from General Lee, in which he informed Secretary Olney in one sentence that his resignation would not be reconsidered, and asking permission to obtain his passports and leave Havana.

The secretary of state sent General Lee a detailed and unmistakable synopsis of the situation and indicated what will follow any further persistence on the part of the consul general. The secretary is said to have carefully gone over the whole ground covered by General Lee's expressed dissatisfaction with the course pursued by the State Department, declared the belief that Lee had acted hastily and without sufficient cause. Lastly, in the event that all other arguments and persuasions failed, Secretary Olney is said to have assured General Lee that a further intimation from him that his resignation was still effective would result in his instant recall on the grounds that he had been remiss in protecting American citizens from Spanish oppression and that he himself was blameable for the condition of Americans in Cuba rather than the State Department.

He is said to have called attention to the case in point, which furnishes the basis for General Lee to request additional support, even to the extent of warships being sent to Havana, and stated that Dr. Ruiz was in solitary confinement for 315 hours, under the most aggravated circumstances, and no report was received from General Lee.

Says Lee Was Tardy.

No statement came from the consul general until the death of Dr. Ruiz was announced to him and he was beyond the need of protection. Lee's attention is called to the additional fact that the department acted with the utmost promptness when asked for an investigation of the death of Dr. Ruiz and that all the details as stated by him were at once cabled to the United States minister at Madrid, with instructions to lay the matter before the Spanish authorities and demand the most careful inquiry to be instituted. There is no shadow of doubt that Secretary Olney would have recalled General Lee last Monday if the President had not made a personal interference of so determined a character that the secretary had no alternative but to temporarily yield or resign.

THE FAMOUS DISPATCH

That Consul General Lee Sent to Secretary Olney.

New York, Feb. 26.—The Herald this morning publishes what it asserts is a copy of the famous dispatch cabled by Consul General Lee to Secretary of State Olney. The dispatch is as follows:

"Olney, Washington:—Have demanded release of Scott, American citizen, who has been kept in prison and incommunicado without due process of law eleven days.

"Trust you appreciate the gravity of the situation and are prepared to sustain me. Must have warship immediately. How many ships have you at Tampa, Key West and Southern waters, and are you prepared to send them here, should it become necessary?

"I cannot and will not stand another Ruiz murder. "LEE."

(Signed.)
Havana.

SOUND MONEY.

Interesting Address by Comptroller of Currency Eckles.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—Hon. James H. Eckles, comptroller of the currency, addressed the members of the National Association of Merchants and Travelers last night. He spoke in Central Music hall, which was filled with representative business men of all branches of trade and coming from every state in the Northwest and Upper Mississippi valley. Mr. Eckles, who was introduced to his audience by Franklin MacVeagh, of Chicago, who acted as chairman of the meeting, spoke upon "The Rights Due Our Business World."

He opened his address by urging the advantages of organization among the business men of the country, saying that they should long since have perfected an association on the lines of the one they have now formed.

Mr. Eckles then dilated at considerable length upon the necessity of sound monetary laws, paying considerable attention to the questions of single gold standard, and of the free coinage of silver. He predicted that in the near future the country would witness the enactment of monetary laws which would place the financial system of the country upon a firm and solid foundation. The great majority of the laws bearing upon the nation's monetary system, that had been passed since the nation became a nation, were, according to Mr. Eckles, in the interest of the inflationist. The time had come for the passage of more conservative and safer laws.

He closed his address by touching briefly upon the difficulties that have beset the present administration, bespeaking good wishes for the outgoing President, and expressing hopes for the success of Major McKinley.

Tanner Warns Old Soldiers.

Washington, Feb. 26.—"Corporal" Tanner, in a card, denies that he is in any way interested in an old soldiers' colonization scheme at Canton, Ga.

He states that advances have been made to him in this connection, but warns old soldiers to investigate the matter before investing.

PLENTY OF FUN.

Mardi Gras at New Orleans is at Its Height.

New Orleans, March 2.—Reverly reigns supreme to-day, and the Mardi Gras spirit has possession of the entire city. It is the great day of the carnival. Dull care, thoughts of business troubles, of sickness and of all matters that oppress the mind, are banished for the hour, and residents and strangers are giving themselves up to merry-making with the spirit of joyous abandon essential to the success of a genuine Mardi Gras. Masking was the rule from 9 o'clock, and there were few people in the streets whose faces were not hidden behind a mask more or less grotesque. The comic Phorty Phunny Phellows had possession of the principal thoroughfares, and their procession and antics added to the general hilarity. The pageant of King Rex, which moved at 11 o'clock, was one of unusual brilliancy. A large number of allegorical floats were in line, and the costumes were magnificent. The pageant elicited a running fire of cheers and applause from the spectators from the start to the end of the route. The balconies of the hotels were packed with Northern visitors, and from the windows of the New Orleans club on Canal street, John Jacob Astor, Stuyvesant Fish, and several others members of the New York four hundred, with their parties, viewed the parade and the subsequent high jinks.

Sundown will bring with it the street pageant of the Mistick Krewes of Comus, and the evening and night will be given up to the Comus ball at the French Opera House, the elite affair of the carnival, and which is participated in by King Rex and his queen. With the final notes of the music at daybreak the festivities end, and Ash Wednesday ushers in forty days of fasting and self-denial.

MR. BRYAN.

Entertained in Washington by John R. McLean.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The feature of the session of the House yesterday was the appearance of William Jennings Bryan, late Democratic candidate for President, on the floor. He had come to the city to attend a dinner given in his honor by John R. McLean, of the Cincinnati Enquirer, and as an ex-member, was entitled to the privilege of the floor. The Democratic members deserted their seats and hurried back to greet him.

After leaving the House Mr. Bryan went to the Senate wing of the capitol where he repaired to the Vice President's room. He was met there by Vice President Stevenson and was called upon by a large number of friends, including all the silver Senators of whatever party. He received all cordially.

The banquet which brought William J. Bryan to Washington was given him last night by John R. McLean at his handsome residence on I street. The affair was an entirely non-political affair and was an occasion bringing together many of Mr. Bryan's old friends and acquaintances.

Before the banquet there was a general reception in which the guest of honor was introduced to those who attended.

The affair was an informal one in that there was no speechmaking, and the guests departed about 11 o'clock.

THE LEADVILLE STRIKE.

Board of Arbitration Recommended by Committee.

Denver, Col., Feb. 26.—The committee of five, Senator Reuter, chairman, appointed by the legislature to investigate the Leadville strike, submitted a report to-day which was, to say the least, a great surprise to the mine owners. E. J. Dewar, secretary of the Leadville miners union, says the committee's conclusions are eminently satisfactory to the miners.

The committee recommends that a board of arbitration be appointed to deal with the question, two to be chosen by the mine owners, and two by the miners, the fifth to be chosen by the four; whatever decision this board of arbitration shall arrive at must be binding on both sides, and an agreement to that effect must be signed beforehand, according to the report. To facilitate this much desired end, the committee submits an agreement in full, which provides that the scale of wages in force immediately before the strike occurred shall be conceded by the mine owners and shall remain in force until the board of arbitration shall have arrived at a decision.

BIG SPECTROSCOPE.

Largest Instrument of the Kind Just Completed.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 26.—The largest spectroscope in the world was completed yesterday by Prof. John A. Brashear, the famous astronomer of Allegheny, for Dr. Hans Hauswaldt, a wealthy scientist of Magdeburg, Germany. The big instrument will be used in physical researches and is expected to assist in many important discoveries.

The powerful concave grating instrument is 21 feet long and will require a room about 25 feet square in which to operate it. The grating to be used on the spectroscope has a six-inch aparture, and is ruled with 110,000 lines. So accurate are these lines ruled that the is no difference any greater than three-millionths of an inch between any of them. This instrument is so powerful that whereas an ordinary spectrascope would show from 100 to 200 lines belonging to the spectrum of iron, this instrument will reveal more than 2,000.

FORCIBLE MEASURES.

Taken to Organize the Oregon Legislature.

Salem, Ore., March 2.—Forcible steps are to be taken to organize the lower branch of the legislature. The temporary House passed a resolution appointing a number of assistant sergeants-at-arms to arrest absent members and bring them in. This step was taken on the legal opinion that the temporary organization has power to compel the attendance of absent members. Twenty-one members were present at the meeting of the House. They all subscribed to the oath, and were sworn in by Chief Justice Moore.

LONG FOR THE NAVY.

Massachusetts Man Announces His Acceptance.

Boston, March 2.—Gov. John D. Long, of Higham, Mass., to-day announced that he has accepted the navy partfolio in President McKinley's Cabinet.

STOPPING DIVORCES.

North Dakota House Passes a Bill to Extend Residence Conditions.

Bismarck, S. D., March 1.—The house passed—yeas, 44; nays, 5—the bill introduced by Speaker Williams extending the period of residence from three months to one year before action for divorce can begin. The bill carries an emergency clause declaring that the state and its judiciary is scandalized and the moral standing of the state degraded by the conduct of those who come to this state for divorce purposes only.

Afro-American Exposition.

Austin, Tex., Feb. 26.—Gov. Culberson has written President Cleveland a letter asking him to recommend federal aid by Congress to the Afro-American exposition which is to be held in Houstan, Tex., in 1898. This exposition will be an international affair and is the first general assemblage of negroes since slavery times.

Mrs. Stevenson Honored.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Mrs. Letitia Green Stevenson, wife of the retiring Vice President of the United States, today was elected president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mrs. Beecher's Condition.

Stamford, Conn., Feb. 27.—Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher passed a comfortable night but this morning she is restless. No great change in her condition is perceptible, but she is weaker.

Good morning. Have you read Thos. Slater's offer for men on page 8?

Radway's Pills

Purely vegetable, mild and reliable. For the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Female Irregularities, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Constipation, Piles, one of Radway's Pills is sufficient to keep the bowels regular and secure PERFECT DIGESTION, and one will prove the correctness of this statement. Sold by Druggists, 25c a box, or by mail. RADWAY & CO., NewYork.

FOR DUSKY WIVES.

Lazy Man's Expedition Looking for an Adamless Eden.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 27.—The brig Percy Edwards has cleared for the Tahiti Islands, and with her goes the United Brotherhood of the South Sea Island. The brig goes to Tahiti and from that port will sail wherever the fancy of those on board dictates.

The expedition was brought about by the publication in a local paper of a story to the effect that on St. John's Island, in the South Seas, were a number of dusky women who were pining for husbands. All the men had been killed in war and the women were lonely. A company was organized in this city to go to the relief of the husbandless women and on board the Edwards are 97 men who sigh for the tropical clime and the easy life of the South Seas. It has since developed that the Adamless Eden story was a myth, but the company organized here determined to go some place. Each man contributed $100 to a common fund. The old whaling brig Edwards was bought and provisioned and to-day the expedition started. The men are provided with agricultural implements and several trades are represented. They will look for some uninhabited island, and when they have found it they propose to settle down to a life of ease.

IS IT A VOLCANO?

Strange Phenomenon That Has Caused Some Alarm.

Salt Lake, Utah, March 1.—What appears to be a genuine volcano has burst forth in the great Salt Lake, a short distance southwest of Promitory Station on the Central Pacific railway. The phenomenon first appeared recently in the form of a small cloud hovering over the water about a mile and a quarter from the shore. It gradually increased in dimensions and shot up so high in the air that it is now visible for a great distance and the water in the immediate vicinity boils and seethes and the spray is thrown up in the air for hundreds of feet.

The volcano is situated in the big arm of the lake on the west side of a long range of mountains, and is distinctly visible from Brigham City. The phenomenon is accounted for by the fact that for the last six months there have been felt several slight shocks of earthquake in these regions, and it is supposed the fire and lava which have been confined in the subterranean depths have now found an outlet and are spending their force.

A number of people have witnessed the phenomenon, which has caused considerable alarm in the vicinity.

AGAINST WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Indiana Supreme Court Ruling That Stings.

Indianapolis, Feb. 25.—The supreme court handed down an opinion yesterday holding that Mrs. Helen Gougar and the female suffragists of Indiana were not entitled to vote, the state constitution expressly limiting the ballot to "every male citizen of the age 21 years and upward."

The court holds that the suffrage does not exist for the benefit of the individual, but for the benefit of the state itself. It is therefore not a natural right, but a civil one, to be exercised only by those to whom it has been expressly granted by positive law.

It also rules that, barring women from the right to vote does not conflict with the fourteenth or fifteenth amendments, as contended by Mrs. Gougar; the inhibition that the right of citizens to vote shall not be abridged on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude not applying to a denial of the right of suffrage on account of sex.

FASTEST AFLOAT.

New Torpedo Boat No. 6 is a Wonder.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 27.—Torpedo boat No. 6 of the United States navy, said to be the fastest vessel afloat, arrived at the Norfolk navy yard Thursday night at 8 o'clock, after making the run from New York in 15 hours, the fastest time ever made between the two cities by any vessel.

The torpedo boat passed Cape Henry light at 6 o'clock, 13 hours out, and was at the navy yard at 8 p. m. It takes an ordinary vessel three hours to make the run from Cape Henry to Norfolk.

The exact distance by water between New York and Norfolk is 300 miles. At that rate of speed the torpedo boat averaged 20 miles an hour for 15 consecutive hours. Thick weather prevailed over the entire coast, together with easterly winds and a very choppy sea. The torpedo boat will anchor at the navy yard several days.

THAT CANTON COTTAGE.

The Major Wanted to Buy the Property, but Could Not.

Canton, March 1.—The McKinleys will retain possession of their present home until April 1, when Landlord H. L. Kuhns, of the Hurford house, will occupy the historic house. It was Major McKinley's intention just after election to purchase the property, but Mrs. George D. Harter, from whom it was leased, has fond domestic attachments for the old home and no deal was made. They had hoped to leave the house substantially intact, as it had been during the campaign and return to Canton for summer visits, and finally occupy it again as their home. As it is, most articles will be stowed away, after inauguration week, some passing into the possession of friends. There is great rejoicing over Major McKinley's evident returning to robust health.

NICARAGUA COFFEE.

The Crop for the Year is Somewhat Short.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Nicaraguan coffee crop for 1896-97 now almost completed, was not a full one owing to drought in the west. The quality has also suffered in a slight degree. The planting of young trees has gone right along from year to year, so that with a good season and full crop Nicaragua would this year have produced fully 5,000,000 pounds more coffee than ever before. The Matagalpa region, in which is located the American colony, is in the interior and benefitting by the rains from the Carribean sea, the colonists made a crop double that of last year. Their exports will reach 1,000,000 pounds.

BRADLEY WON'T APPOINT.

Kentucky's Governor Likely to Call on the Legislature.

Louisville, Ky., March 1.—It is the general opinion among politicians at Frankfort that Governor Bradley will not appoint a senator but convene the legislature soon after the term of Senator Blackburn expires and give that body a chance to elect a senator.

This change of plans is said to have been brought about by the Republican steering committee of the United States senate.

Country's First "Saint."

Philadelphia, March 1.—Archbishop Ryan announces that the pope has declared "Venerable" the late John Nepomucene Neumann, fourth bishop of Philadelphia. He will be the saint in the United States.

THE CIGARETTE TRUST.

Duke Before the Trust Investigating Committee.

New York, Feb. 24.—The legislative trust investigating committee held a three hours' session yesterday and adjourned until to-day, because it was unable to find a place in the city where it could meet. This leaves only two days more for the inquiry, the Republican leaders having determined positively not to extend the committee's time beyond March 1, when the report must be made.

The chief witness was President James B. Duke of the cigarette trust, which is incorporated under the laws of New Jersey as the American Tobacco company. The organization and mode of operation of this trust have already been described. Mr. Duke named the fourteen tobacco companies which were consolidated and admitted that the trust had incorporated in New Jersey, though it has no factory in that state, because the taxes were lighter and the laws more favorable. He said that the trust now produces from 80 to 90 per cent of the paper cigarettes made, 5 per cent of the plug tobacco, 10 per cent of the smoking tobacco and from 60 to 70 per cent of the cigarettes made wholly from tobacco.

This product is sold through middlemen, who are made the "agents" of the company by a factor's agreement, and who are allowed a rebate of 10 per cent if they maintain prices and do not deal in the product of competing concerns. If they violate the agreement the trust cuts them off, and they go out of business. Like the sugar trust, the tobacco combination has closed several of its factories. The trusts have been especially unfortunate in losses of unused buildings by fire. The shutdown threw about 900 employes out of work in New York.

James B. Duke, president of the American Tobacco company, was one of the first to appear to-day in the room of the joint legislative committee on trusts. He brought with him the labor statistics asked for yesterday by Senator Lexow. The papers show that prior to the incorporation of the American Tobacco company in 1890 the several companies gave employment to 5,895 tobacco workers. To-day the number of employes in the employ of the company is 9,194, making an increase since the date of consolidation of 3,299 hands.

In calling to order Chairman Lexow said: "It is the intention of the committee to investigate the so-called coal trust to-morrow. Charges have been made that the coal combination is the most vicious trust that exists and certain newspapers have made specific charges of the existence of this combination or trust."

President Duke then took the stand. He said that the capital stock of the New York and Cuban Mail Steamship company prior to consolidation was $10,000, which, with the acquisition of the various companies, was increased to $25,000,000. This was subsequently raised to $79,830,000. Good will, such as patents and trademarks, cost $6,000,000.

"How much did Allen & Ginter receive?"

"The same as Duke Co.—$7,497,000."

The witness said that Kinney & Co. received as a going concern in stock, with a guarantee of $1,500,000 in live assets, W. S. Kimball & Co. $2,499,000 and the Goodwin company $2,499,000 for common and preferred stock.

"How much was issued for the live assets of the various companies?"

"About $5,000,000 worth of stock."

"And how much for good will?"

"Nineteen million, nine hundred and ninety thousand."

HANNA FOR SENATOR.

"If I Can't Win my Seat, I Don't Want It."

Canton, O., Feb. 24.—National Chairman M. A. Hanna arrived in Canton last evening at 5:35 o'clock and was driven in President-elect McKinley's carriage to the major's house. When seen at the depot by an Associated Press representative Mr. Hanna said there was very little more to say concerning the senatorship. "The question is settled so far as I am concerned, and I can say nothing more about it."

Later, after dinner, at the McKinley home, Mr. Hanna talked freely to a number of newspaper and press representatives. He said his appointment to the senate by Gov. Bushnell was very gratifying to him, and was an honor which he greatly appreciated.

He said his appointment had clarified the situation in the state. In speaking of the term to follow the vacancy, Mr. Hanna said: "If I can't win my seat, I don't want it." This is taken as an indication that he will be in the senatorial race for the long term.

INSANE OVER POLITICS.

Indiana Man Who Read Too Much Free Silver Gush.

Elkhart, Ind., Feb. 24.—Roland Geisinger, a young man of this city, has become violently insane over the result of the late national election, reading free silver literature and brooding over imaginary sufferings of laboring men. Several times recently he has gone into banks and mercantile houses and threatened to dynamite the places if the proprietors did not divide up with him. He was to-day taken to the state asylum at Logansport. He has a wife and children.

NAMED FOR GRANDMA.

Elizabeth the Name of the Daughter of the Harrisons.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 25.—The little one which has come to the ex-President and Mrs. Harrison has been named Elizabeth, in honor of Mrs. Harrison's mother, but 'tis said that and the sex been different the youngster would have been christened William Henry Harrison, in honor of "Old Tippecanoe," the famous grandfather of Gen. Harrison. The mother and child continue to improve.

Texas Independence Day.

Austin, Tex., March 1.—The celebration of the independence day of Texas to-morrow will this year be made more than usually interesting by the presentation to the schools of the state, by the Daughters of the Republic, of the pictures of General Stephen F. Austin and General Sam Houston, called "The Fathers of the Commonwealth."

Markets and Crops.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS

Still Continues Along Solid Conservative Lines.

New York, Feb. 27.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says genuine improvement in business does not come with a rush like the breaking of a great dam. The growth for some weeks past has been more encouraging, because in nearly all lines it has been gradual and undoubted. The rupture of the street railway and other combinations in the iron business has brought out a vast quantity of trade which had been held back, and has set many thousand men at work while the slow but steady gain in other great industries has given employment to many thousands more, but the full effects will not appear until increased purchases by all these swell the distribution of goods. Meanwhile, it is substantial ground for confidence that months which were regarded by many in the money market with serious apprehensions have passed without disturbance and with steady gain in the position of the country and of the treasury.

New York, Feb. 27.—Bradstreet's says: The placing of orders for nearly 1,000,000 tons of steel within the past three weeks is the most important influence for improvement in general trade since the November election.

The contracts for steel rails taken since the break in the price, together with expenditure necessary to lay the rails, means the placing in circulation of not less than $35,000,000. The meaning of sales of rails for export has been exaggerated, as some orders placed abroad were due to English mills being temporarily engaged on other forms of steel.

The rush for rails appears to be about over, and the outlook is for higher prices Consumption of Bessemer pig iron is in excess of production, and wire and nail mills are running full time.

Many woolen mills in New England have started up. Manufacturers are buying in expectation of a duty being placed on raw wool. Recent improvement in cotton goods is maintained. At most cities there has been no change in the volume or temper of trade. Demand has been quiet, and while expectations favor an early improvement, progress thus far has been somewhat disappointing. The most marked gains are at Chicago and St. Louis, where visiting merchants have made relatively heavy purchases of dry goods, clothing and groceries. Jobbers at Cleveland, Cincinnati, Milwaukee and Louisville in some instances regard the outlook as more favorable.

Unseasonable weather on the South Atlantic coast and in the Northwest has interrupted business, and reports from Galveston and Nashville are that the movement of merchandise has been disappointing.

Exports of wheat (flour included as wheat) from both coasts of the United States this week (one holiday), and from St. John, N. B., have fallen off sharply, the total amounting to 1,372,216 bushels.

Exports of Indian corn amount to 6,744,000 bushels this week compared with 6,441,000 bushels last week.

There are 258 business failures reported throughout the United States this week compared with 335 last week, and 271 in the week one year ago. There are 50 failures reported from the dominion of Canada against 50 last week and 51 a year ago.

COMING GRAIN CROPS.

Reports of Conditions in All Parts of the World.

Washington, March 1.—In the current report of the statistician of the agricultural department is the European agent of the condition and prospects of crops in Great Britain and the condition, together with the official estimate of wheat sowings in India for the present year. It shows as follows:

Europe—Favorable reports as to the condition of winter wheat and other crops are received from Great Britain, France, Spain, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, the Northern and Central parts of Russia and Polland. Severe weather in the latter part of January was very generally preceded by heavy snow, which afforded timely protection, especially where the crops had been forced forward by previous mild weather, as in Great Britain and Austria-Hungary, or by rains, as in Spain.

In Italy the crops have suffered from excessive rains, especially on the fertile Northern and Central plains, and in the Southern part of Russia winter wheat has been destroyed on a large scale by severe weather preceding snow fall. It is estimated that in Podolia and Bessarabia alone 2,000,000 acres will have to be resown with spring wheat, and the same is true of large areas in the Khersonez and other fertile Southern provinces.

India—The official estimate of wheat sowings shows an enormous decrease of acreage. A total area of 16,750,000 acres is reported as compared with 21,777,000 on January 1, 1896, and 26,032,000 on January 1, 1895. The estimated average production per acre of 10 bushels will result, under favorable circumstances, in a crop of 167,500,000 bushels, a quantity insufficient to meet domestic requirements.

The British hop crop—The official estimates of last year's hop crop show a product of 433,188 cwts in 1896, as compared with 553,396 cwts. in 1895, 636,846 cwts. in 1894, and 414,929 cwts. in 1893, the average annual production for the four years being 514,590 cwts., which represents just about the average annual consumption. The average annual importation of 200,000 cwts. may be said, therefore, to represent a surplus, which will account for the persistently disappointing market and the long prevailing low prices.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., March 2, 1897.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	March 2.	Feb. 23.
U. S. 4's (new) coupons	123	123⅜
U. S. 4's (new) registered	123	123⅜
U. S. 5's coupons	113⅝	113⅝
U. S. 5's registered	113⅝	113⅝
U. S. 6's coupons	111	111
U. S. 4's registered	111	111⅛
U. S. 2's registered	95½	95½
Pacific 6's of '98	103⅝	103⅝

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

Wheat started in to-day at an improvement of ½c. There was some uncertainty for a brief period at the opening, as cables were not so high as anticipated, but it was not long before rallies came sharply higher, and with an advance at St. Louis of 2c, the effect was felt all along the line. The reports of low supply of winter wheat in Russia, and of damage reports from Russia and the Southwestern sections of the United States added strength to the upward turn, and the markets went up 1½c from the closing point of yesterday. Shorts covered freely in the pool, which was also a factor of strength. Later on there was active taking of profits, and the markets eased 1c from the best figures. The report that